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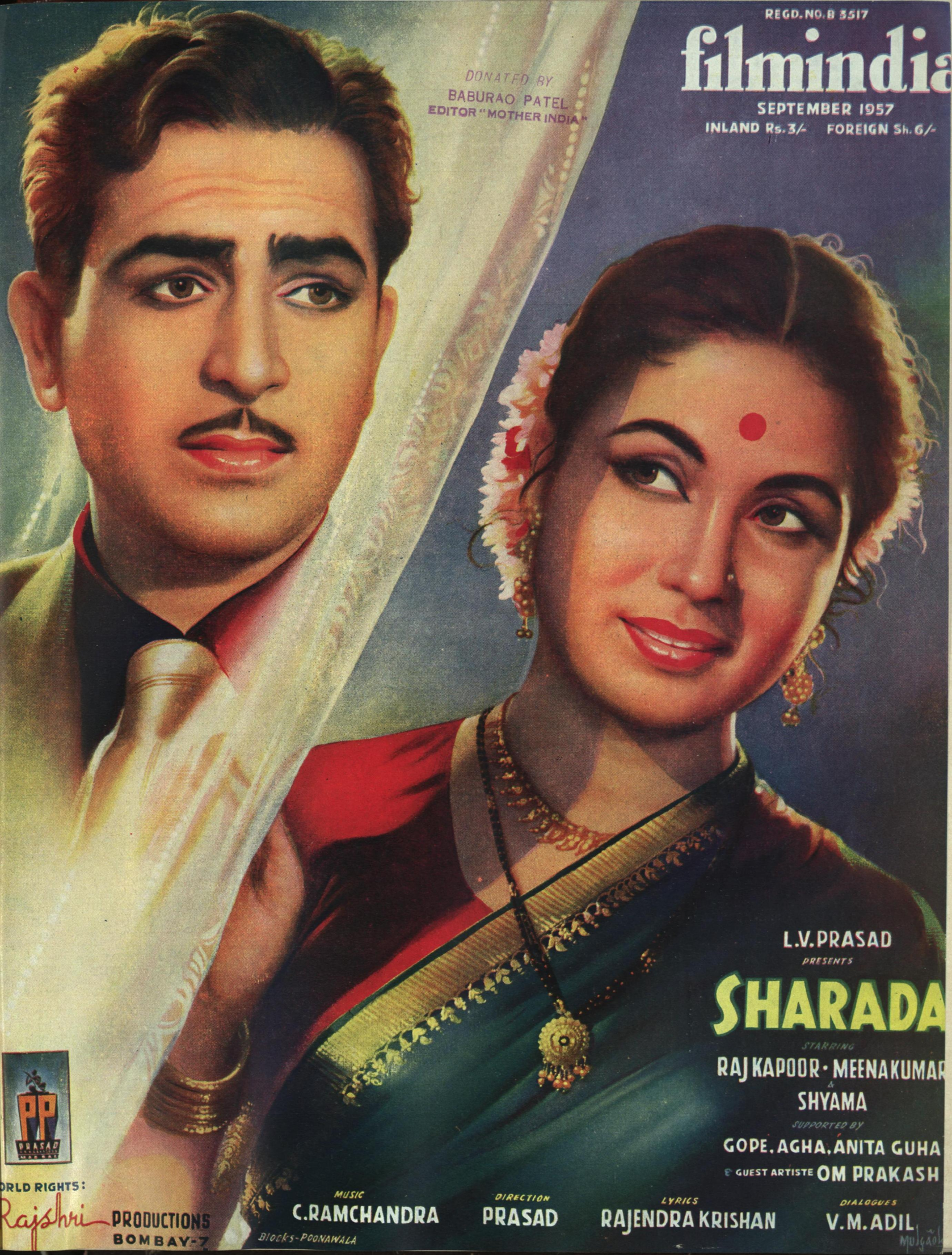

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filmindia

Editor : B A B U R A O P A T E L

Vol XXIII SEPTEMBER, 1957 No 9

23rd YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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Quarterly	3 „	Rs. 9|-	„	„

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EXPERIENCED FURNITURE DESIGNER wanted urgently by a reputable furnishing firm. Contact immediately Box No. 1393 "Filmindia".

The Bitter Truth

On June 25, 1957, when Nehru arrived at the London airport for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, he told reporters that his Government planned to seek "a large loan" in the next six months. Asked where he expected to raise the loan, Nehru replied, "We have our dealings with the British and other Governments and we shall certainly be asking for a loan". Nehru wanted Rs. 300 crores to tide over the immediate difficulties of the second Five-Year Plan.

The British people took Nehru to meet their Queen and gave Indira Gandhi's family album a few royal photographs but they refused the loan. The British had not forgotten Nehru's and Krishna Menon's gymnastics over the Suez crisis. Britain, the nucleus of the Commonwealth, thus decided not to share its wealth in common. Smiles, hospitality and press photographs the British did not mind. But they decided to keep their money at home and not risk it on a Government they did not trust.

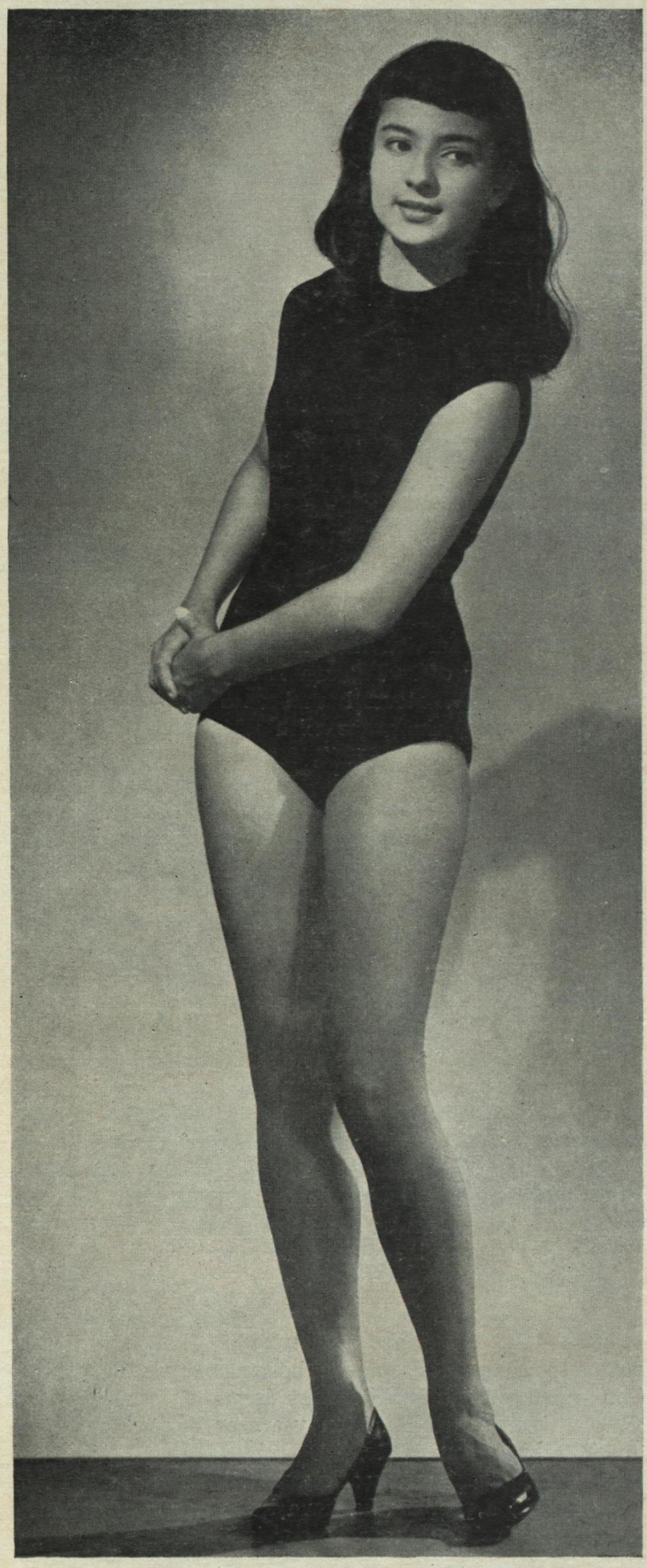
The "Financial Times", a leading British paper, wrote, "There are many people who do not have a high opinion of the present Indian Government and who disapprove with justice of many of its policies. Nobody thinks that its economic policies have been prudent or well adjusted". The British are essentially a nation of shopkeepers and by their talent for profits developed over centuries, they instinctively know who is a good customer.

We have Nehru's sister, Vijayalakshmi Pandit, the best that we can present in our still well-fed blue-blooded aristocracy, as our High Commissioner in London to plead our case for financial help at blue-blood levels which our Khers and Menons could never reach. Why then did the British, our old masters and new relations through the Mountbattens, refuse to help us—particularly after our cancelling a big order for 14 Russian Ilyushins and purchasing ten Turbo-propelled Viscount aircrafts from Britain?

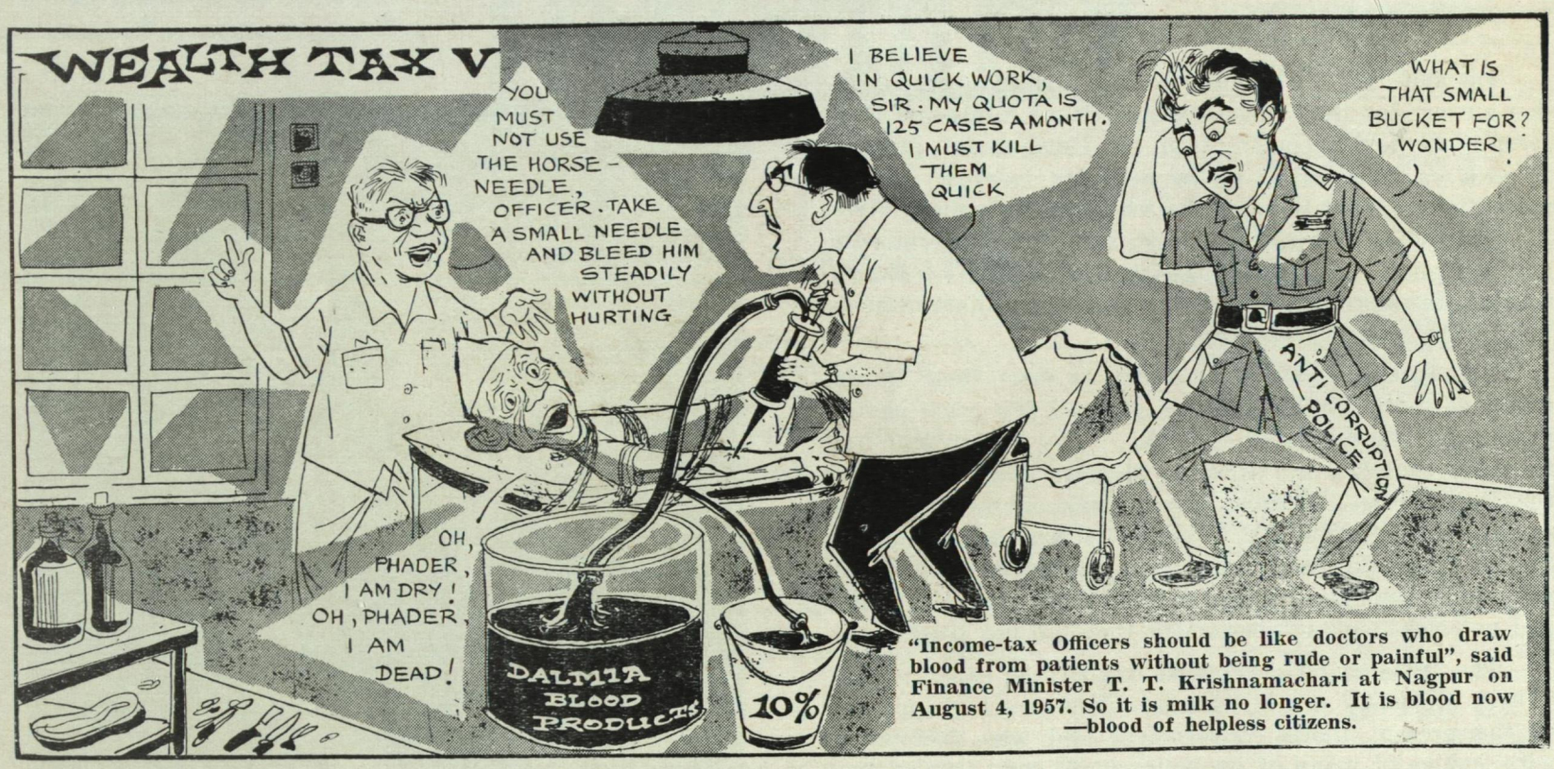
Nehru, himself, answered this question on August 16, 1957, in New Delhi, when addressing a crowd of 3,00,000 persons assembled on the Ramlila grounds to pay a tribute to the heroes of the 1857 revolution. Nehru said that many people outside had not been happy over the success of India during the last ten years. They had declined to help India economically. "These things, however, happen and there will be people to pull us down".

That is a woman's explanation for a man's failure. Women always blame others when things go against their expectations. Though Nehru did not name the "many people outside", he meant none else than the British and the Americans.

★ ★ ★



Tanuja—Nutan's younger sister—another potential star in Shobhana Samarth's artistic family—and incidentally another potential victim of the Income Tax hounds. This green one will soon begin sweating for our second Five-Year Plan. Shobhana is spending a fortune on her training in Switzerland to enable her to pay a small fortune to the Income Tax authorities every year. But when Tanuja becomes old the Income Tax authorities won't give her a pension.


WEALTH TAX V
YOU MUST NOT USE THE HORSE-NEEDLE, OFFICER. TAKE A SMALL NEEDLE AND BLEED HIM STEADILY WITHOUT HURTING
I BELIEVE IN QUICK WORK, SIR. MY QUOTA IS 125 CASES A MONTH. I MUST KILL THEM QUICK
WHAT IS THAT SMALL BUCKET FOR? I WONDER!
OH, PHADER, I AM DRY! OH, PHADER, I AM DEAD!
DALMIA BLOOD PRODUCTS
10%
ANTI CORRUPTION POLICE

"Income-tax Officers should be like doctors who draw blood from patients without being rude or painful", said Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari at Nagpur on August 4, 1957. So it is milk no longer. It is blood now —blood of helpless citizens.

Nehru's insinuation that the British are "not happy over the success of India" can hardly stand the test of recent history. Whatever have been the misdeeds of British imperialism, the grace with which the British left the shores of India in 1947, leaving us a free people with a vast and well-developed country, amply proves the lofty democratic ideals which inspire the British people as a race. The British left behind in the Reserve Bank of India, on 30th June 1947, gold, coin, bullion and sterling securities amounting to Rs. 1,179,74,00,000. Our sterling balances on the day of the departure of the British were Rs. 1,733 crores. We were given another Rs. 426 crores by way of repatriation of the pre-war debt. A brigandish nation like Portugal would have carried all the plunder and denied all the debts. Had it not been for the British and their English language, Indians would never have learnt the true meaning of freedom and democracy. It is a peculiar quality of the British boot that while it holds the worm, it teaches the worm to learn and turn. Such a race cannot be jealous of India's success and cannot seek to pull us down as Nehru thinks and says. All that the British want from us now is profit of legitimate trade. Who doesn't want it? Don't we want profit from our export trade?

That brings us to the other people whom Nehru had in mind—the Americans. America is easily the richest nation in the world. Its annual budget is over $ 67,933 million—money which India cannot dream of in another 500 years. During the last ten years of our independence, America has given us Rs. 476 crores, both in public and private assistance, by way of commodities, loans and grants. Why should a people who have helped us so generously during the first ten years of our independence now "not be happy over our success" and try "to pull us down", as Nehru is at pains to insinuate?

There is obviously something wrong with our foreign policy seeing that the Americans are not willing to help us any more after giving us Rs. 476 crores? Usually people who lend money never lose sight of their debtors. They keep their debtors living by giving new loans to recover the old ones.

Among the white races, the British were supposed to be our best friends till yesterday seeing that the Indian Nehrus almost established a blood relationship with the British Mountbattens. Our princely Nehru even pocketed his great plebeian pride and fell into his two-hundredth rank as a docile retainer of the Commonwealth at the Queen's coronation. Why have the British given us the cold shoulder now, in spite of Nehru's sister exposing her warm shoulder all the time with a sleeveless blouse?

There must be something radically wrong with our foreign policy seeing that we are losing powerful people who should be our first friends because of our common ideals of democracy.

Let us therefore examine this magic 'mantra' of "foreign policy" which Nehru arrogated to himself on the very first day of our freedom and claimed the entire wisdom of chanting it in the interest of our nation, pushing aside all his white-capped colleagues as ignorant and uncivilized junglies of the day. He even turned the 'mantra' into an election slogan and put it at stake to get his favourite Krishna Menon elected to the Lok Sabha.

Early in the dawn of our freedom, we declared our neutrality and announced our policy of non-alignment with

either of the growling blocs: the Western democracies and the Communists. That was a wise decision for a poor unarmed nation with 360 million starving souls just released from the fetters of slavery. With this single decision we abjured all international power politics, ideological conflicts and territorial ambitions and simplified our design for living in harmony with the rest of the world.

That left us a simple 4-point foreign policy:

1. To sell our goods in friendly world markets.
2. To buy food and industrial machinery from all friendly countries.
3. To get loans from friendly nations for our industrial development.
4. To seek help and arms from friendly nations in case Pakistan attacks us.

To achieve these objects we soon established our embassies and commissions in over 50 countries of the world at an annual expense of Rs. 6 crores. That all these embassies have failed in our first objective is apparent from the fact that our foreign exchange position has today dwindled down to Rs. 390 crores from the original pool of Rs. 1,733 crores in 1947.

But this precarious financial position would not have taken our friends away from us. They know that we are involved in our fantastic five-year plans of building an Utopia overnight. In fact, some of them even shared our dream as is proved by the loans given to us by them.

What hurt them is the fifth dominating item in our foreign policy of giving free ideological advice to other nations and rushing with uninvited interference into their political conflicts under the grandiose excuse of avoiding war and maintaining world peace.

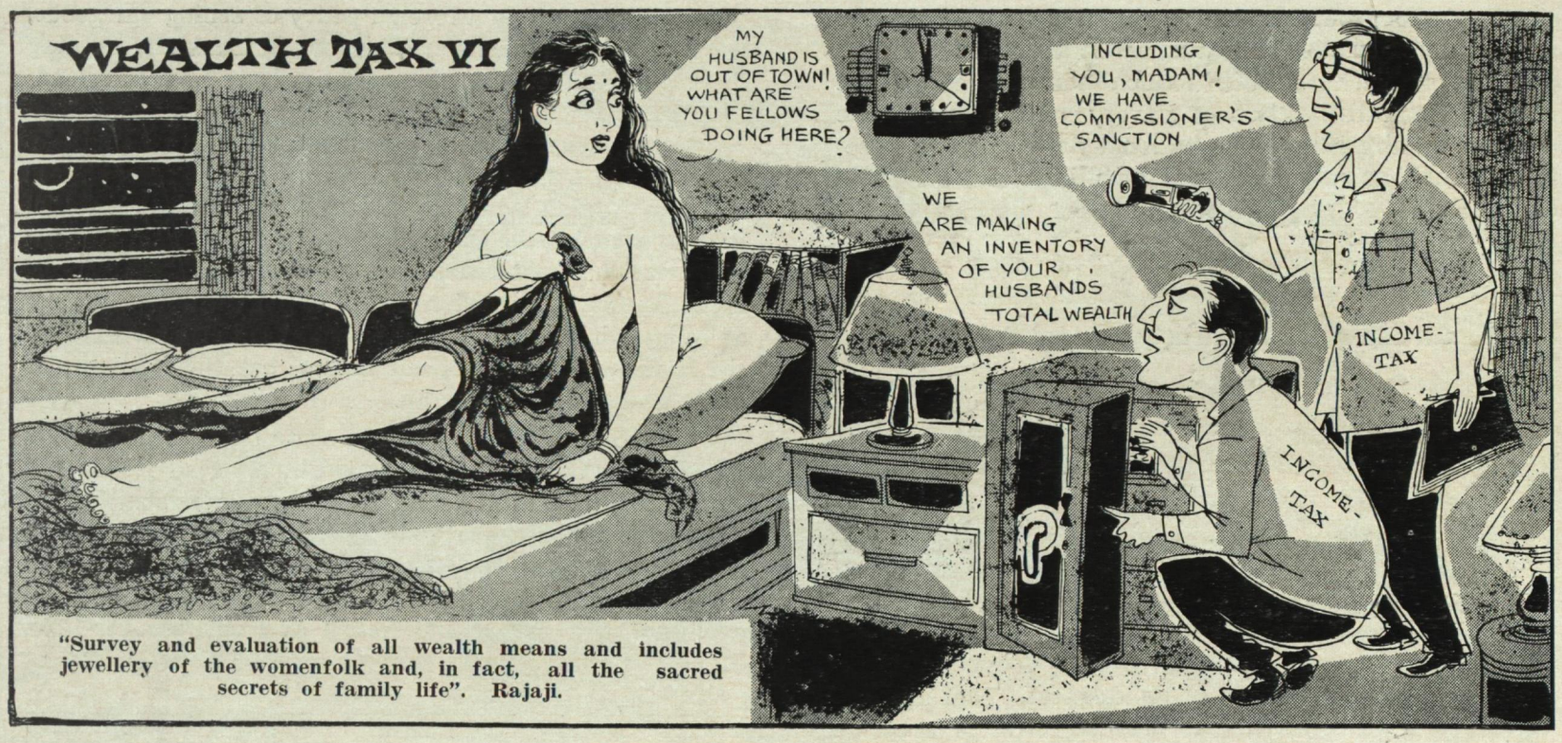
Neither our people nor our Congress leaders had anything to do with this aspect of Nehru's foreign policy. They kept aloof and watched the fun which has now brought tragedy home. This was Nehru's personal pontifical show with Krishna Menon playing the chief choirboy. The Nehru legend in a right royal Buddhist tradition had to be established. Peace soon became the theme, Panchshila its refrain. The Gandhian heir soon forgot his 360-million starving countrymen and rushed about the world singing his Panchshila song, jumping into other people's quarrels, giving lofty sermons of coexistence and condemning others for their sadistic designs on peace. To lend this role a spiritual background Nehru revived Buddhism in India, to give it an aggressive outlook he adopted Krishna Menon and to steep it in a plebeian complexion he embraced international Communists as new 'bhais'.

In the meantime, millions of people in India switched on from rice and wheat to roots and barks of trees. The new Messiah of peace soon brought new starvation to his people.

Had we stuck to a foreign policy of selling our goods, buying food and machinery, borrowing loans and earning the goodwill of others, we would not have been so friendless today.

But Nehru's song of world peace had to be supplemented with gymnastics of peace. So in 1953 we jumped into the Korean squabble between America and Soviet Russia, accepted the Chairmanship of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, sent our 'jawans' to Korea, spent Rs. 60 lakhs and returned home with the disgrace of failure, hurting all—the Americans, the Russians and the Koreans. It was not our quarrel but Nehru's itch for peace took us into the scrap.

In 1954, we again agreed to serve on the three-nation Supervisory Commission in Indo-China. Had Nehru not beaten the drum of peace loudly and persistently, the Frenchmen would have gone back to France and Ho Chi Minh would have by now reconstructed his devastated country. But the sudden cease-fire stopped the natural evolution of a nation and Nehru said on July 11, 1954, "I do say that at one time there was a possibility of


WEALTH TAX VI
MY HUSBAND IS OUT OF TOWN! WHAT ARE YOU FELLOWS DOING HERE?
INCLUDING YOU, MADAM! WE HAVE COMMISSIONER'S SANCTION
WE ARE MAKING AN INVENTORY OF YOUR HUSBANDS TOTAL WEALTH
INCOME-TAX
INCOME-TAX

"Survey and evaluation of all wealth means and includes jewellery of the womenfolk and, in fact, all the sacred secrets of family life". Rajaji.

another great war breaking out, but this was averted and India's counsel was heard with respect". So Nehru, the new Buddha, stopped another great world war. Ha! Ha! Nehru thinks war has ended in Indo-China and peace is reigning. What Nehru does not realize is that the first ceremony of peace begins on the last remains of the enemy. Here again Nehru's itch for world peace cost us several lakhs of rupees—lakhs that could have bought some food for millions of our empty stomachs.

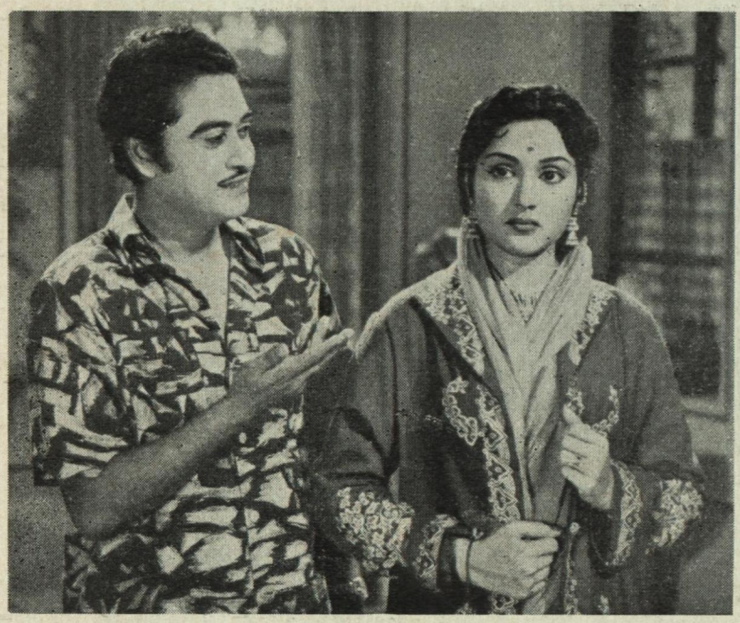
In August 1956, we jumped into the Suez Canal to dredge up Col. Nasser and to chase out the British. On August 8, 1956, Nehru made his pontifical pronouncement in the Lok Sabha, "The sovereignty of Egypt over the Suez Canal is beyond question" and said that "no final decisions" could be reached without Egyptian concurrence. He kept Krishna Menon shuttling between Cairo and London with such vehemence that Englishmen, who had once handed over our country to us with grace, soon began to hate the very sight of every Indian they saw in the street bus. A Muslim quarrel can never be our own but Nehru adopted it and lost the British as friends. To go to these people again with a beggar's open palm for a loan after giving them two months of Krishna Menon is to put a severe strain on the self-respect of even a poor nation like India.

In November 1956, we again jumped into the Hungarian holocaust and our great Krishna Menon, in silent sympathy with the Russians, committed our people without their consent by abstaining from voting when the U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution condemning Russia's military repression in Hungary. This exposed the true complexion of Nehru's inner politics rather badly and the world accused our nation of "double standards". The mask was torn and it had to be restored. So on November 5, 1956, Nehru said in New Delhi, "We see today in Egypt as well as in Hungary both human dignity and freedom outraged and the force of modern arms used to suppress peoples and to gain political objectives". The choirboy had blundered and the pontiff hurriedly saved the situation which threatened to be awkward. But the result was that our Russian "bhais" were hurt.

And that is why perhaps our Deputy Defence Minister, Sardar Majithia, had to state in the Rajya Sabha, on August 22, 1957, "Unfortunately, we have not any army equipment from the Soviet Union as yet". The word "unfortunately" implies that we even begged for it. So even our Soviet "Bhais" are denying us their friendship in spite of their two greatest champions outside the Communist world, Nehru and Krishna Menon, pushing the nation towards Communism under the cloak of establishing a socialistic pattern of society.

We have quoted only a few outstanding instances of Nehru's pontifical interference in the political conflicts of other nations. The other pin-pricks by way of lofty and unsolicited advice on Formosa, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Oman, South Africa, etc., have been too many to waste our time and space on.

By all this we do not mean that we should straightaway walk into the American camp and be their camp-followers. That would be a very dangerous thing to do. Americans are a worse people to deal with than the British who at least have a democratic conscience. Besides, the pitiable slavish dependence in which we find today Turkey, Japan, Pakistan and several South American countries, which took American "aid", should be a



When women pout, men have to take things lightly otherwise the eyes begin to rain. Kishore Kumar is trying to make light of his flirtation outside but Vyjayantimala is still angry in "Aasha", an exciting entertainer produced and directed by M. V. Raman.

constant warning to us not to walk blindfold into the American camp under the anaesthesia of democracy.

But we need not make the Americans antagonistic unnecessarily by giving them high-sounding sermons on their political designs. We have, ofcourse, a right to protest where our own security is threatened by wrong American action, such as supplying arms to Pakistan. But that protest again need not be a sermon from the mount setting out lofty canons of rectitude delivered in a tone of self-righteousness. If we are a mature nation, as Nehru insists on saying a million times, our protest should contain mellow words of diplomatic wisdom rather than the hot censure of an evangelical maniac of peace.

America has helped us with Rs. 476 crores in the last ten years not because Americans are in love with Indians. Their professions of democracy in doing so are not necessarily the confessions of their designs. Nor have we got all that money because the Americans are fascinated by the novelty of our Five-Year Plans or hypnotized by the dynamic personality of Nehru. Moneylenders never bother about the personality of their debtors.

America has given us money because of the strategical importance of our geographical position and the weight of our vast population—both decisive factors in her cold war against Communism. These are our permanent assets, which, without pledging, we can always exploit to get funds from the Western democracies—and more so because democracy is also the sheet anchor of our existence.

But Nehru devaluates these permanent assets when he embraces Russian and Chinese Communists and calls them 'bhais', when he covertly seeks to introduce Communism in the country under the handy cloak of establishing a socialistic pattern of society and when he rushes to interfere into other people's political conflicts with unsolicited high-sounding sermons of peace and international morality.

But while he does all this, perhaps to stabilize the Nehru legend of peace in future books of history, he forgets that such acts militate against our basic principle of neutrality and non-alignment with the two warring blocs of the world—a principle which is the very bedrock of our foreign policy.

People who need money, as badly as we do today to waste on our Five-Year Plan, cannot afford to abuse their creditors. The example of West Germany, which Nehru himself quotes so often, should be an object lesson to Nehru. The Prime Minister of West Germany never gives sermons of peace to others. Inheriting a truncated territory covered with the ghastly ruins of war, the Prime Minister of West Germany bravely and silently set about the reconstruction of his country. During twelve years no one heard him speak—not even his own people. Taking American help, the German people quietly worked under their silent leader—who worried neither about peace nor about Korea—and within twelve years of hard and silent work rebuilt the industry and economy of their country. Today, West Germany is again one of the largest industrial countries in the world, with half the world owing her money. The German people and their silent leader performed this miracle. Their great leader did not waste national energy in talking politics or giving sermons of peace to others.

The story in our country has been entirely different. People in our country have not been called upon to build a prosperous nation but to erect an altar for another demigod—Nehru. The entire nation has been harnessed to build a legend round one man and to such an extent has this individual design been pursued that millions of people now ask helplessly the question: Who after Nehru? As if India never existed before 1947, as if we had no heroes in our history, as if we have no one left in a crowd of 360-million people to lead us, as if the world is going to come to an end immediately Nehru leaves the scene! All that we have achieved in the first ten years of our independence is this impotent helplessness created by the frowning tyranny of a man we loved most.

It hurts us to say so, but the switch-over from rice and wheat to roots and barks of trees in millions of homes leaves us no choice but to state that as long as Nehru rules the roost neither will our foreign relations improve nor will our internal conditions brighten to build a new nation of our dreams. Make no mistake about that.

Nehru and his stooges must go if India is to live and prosper.

"Girnar" Baburao Patel

24.8.1957.

Editor's Mail

(In this section, the editor himself replies to queries from the readers. As thousands of letters are received every month—some anxious and several frivolous—it is neither possible nor convenient to attend to all. Selected letters are usually treated in an informative and humorous strain and no offence is meant to anyone.)

Women are good at wistful waiting and they look most charming when their eyes hold the tears but just don't drop them. Shyama is an old expert in making male hearts jump with a start and she brings new emotion to the screen in "Sharda", a social theme directed by Prasad for Prasad Productions.

S. PRAKASH (Jullundur)

There are curtains in a Punjab Government building at Chandigarh, each one of which costs Rs. 30,000/-. And you said India is a country of huts?

The actual cost must be Rs. 30. The rest of the zeros must have been taken home by the Congress contractors.

Is T. T. K. scared of Nehru?

Well, a bandleader has the option of the instruments he would like to play at different times. At the moment Nehru is blowing through the T.T..K. trumpet.

Can Chavan kill a lion?

Let him get rid of the mule first.

What is an adopted wife?

That is milk without the Municipal licence to keep the cow.

If Tendulkar climbs a mountain?

Nehru will have to run up and carry him down. Tendulkar has not learnt to climb down yet.

Is Nargis in wrong company these days?

She is back in her mother's old durbar now.

Where shall we find you after you leave this planet?

I shall leave behind the address in print.

Have you ever travelled without a ticket?

I did it once by the last train and I was caught and pushed out of the station. I had to walk home seven miles in rain.

Once, in a dream, I was your younger brother?

I don't understand why even a dream should have this inferiority complex. Next time you dream try to be the elder brother.

We don't see any Muslims here?

You have Sikhs to sustain your secular spirit.

Once I travelled in a ladies' compartment?

Punjabis often commit convenient mistakes.

Dr. Radhakrishnan says, "Men behave better in the presence of women"!

Did he say anything about the age and looks of women?

NARENDRA MEHTA (Delhi)

How about legalizing corruption in India?

And taking all the thrill out of the game? That will be cruel. An illegitimate coin has the devil's face on it and that is the face that attracts human beings.

S. SUBRAMANIAN (Calcutta)

Why do your film people overadmire V. K. Krishna Menon?

It was fear that first created gods in this world and it is fear that makes cowards erect altars of common clay.

My uncle, T. A. Ramanathan, is pigeon-chested?

I don't expect Samsons to come from Mannargudi.

K. M. RAO (Dhanbad)

If a Martian pays a visit to Delhi?

He will find only Venusians busy blasting the homes of others.

COME, NEELA, HE IS BUSY WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. DON'T YOU WANT TO SLEEP WELL TONIGHT?
TO MEET YOU I FEIGNED A HEADACHE BUT I CAN'T COME OUT. ASHOK. MY HUSBAND MIGHT RETURN HOME EARLY FROM THE PARTY

What will you do if a turban obstructs you from seeing a picture in a theatre?

Turbans can't be removed in India. They are vaults that hold the family pride and people have lost their heads to protect their turbans.

Say something about Kantilal Morarji?

Seth Kantilal, if you please!

Who is the leader of the Parsis?

Tata is their natural Aga Khan but there are other tribal chiefs like Wadia, Saklatvala, Shroff, Modi, etc.

Is justice cheap in India?

Luxury is never cheap anywhere.

Does Nutan call you "chacha"?

She calls me uncle and puts an old book on the shelf straightaway.

Krishna Menon takes 36 cups of tea every day!

Sheer luxury! We cannot afford two.

Macaulay said that the whole intellectual product of the East could be accommodated on one shelf of any European library?

And yet all the authors of Europe could not produce a Ramayana or a Mahabharata.

How to advertise foolishness?

Study the Five-Year Plan posters.

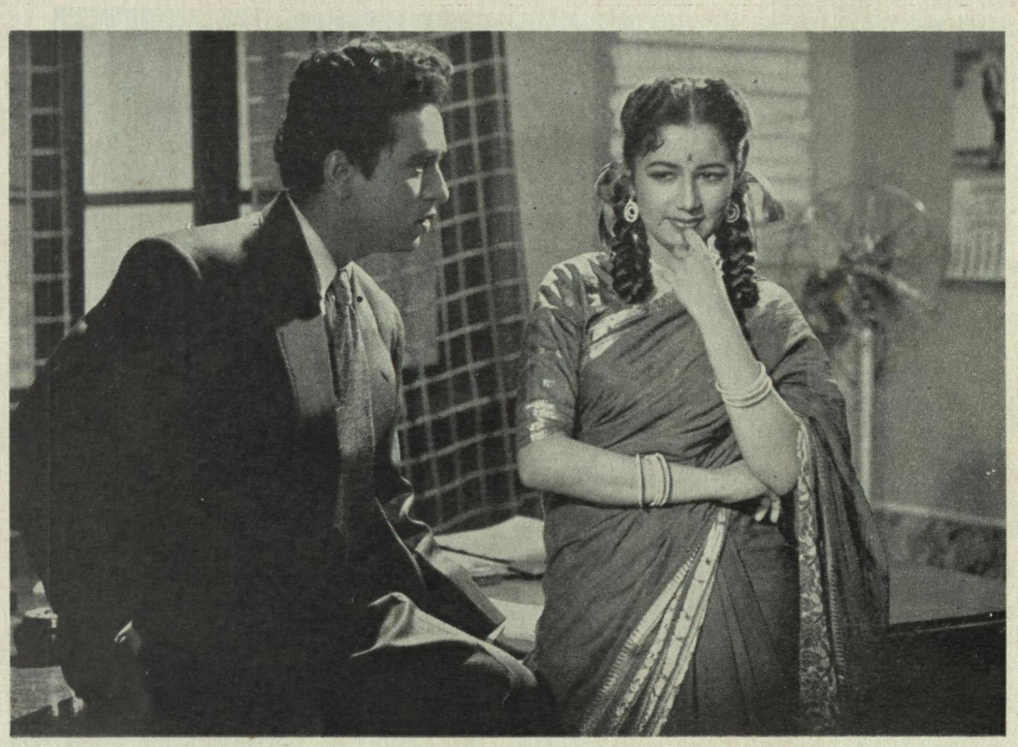
RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

Jayne Mansfield is something after all!

Something? She is so-much-thing. She leaves no spare space in the eye.

Did Meena Shorey ever fall in love?

Once when I met her she pompously dec-



The first whispers of love hit the heart like a thunder and make the little ones wonder. Chandrashekhar is still a mile away from Nanda in "Laxmi", a tale of love.

lared that her head was at her husband's feet. The husband then was Roop Shorey and he had thick and broad Punjabi feet.

If Iris whistles?

There will be a riot among the paunchy little grocers of England.

YOU TAUGHT ME TO LOVE AND SMILE
SHE IS WHISTLING FOR ME
SHE IS CALLING ME
IRIS IS MY GIRL
THE 'PAUNCHIES' ARE BREAKING THEIR UMBRELLAS, IRIS. STOP WHISTLING, OLD GIRL

Can Nargis risk another romance now?

Sita went through the fire ordeal to return to the same man. Film actresses, however, are not bound by old rules. Nargis burnt the past in her fire ordeal.

Do dogs disturb your sleep?

I hear music in their bark.

What things did Adam forget to tell his sons?

Modern rules of co-existence and co-habitation.

VIR B. S. CHAUHAN (Mainpuri)

I have not seen the face of my 45-year-old mother-in-law as she observes purdah still very strictly!

Well, you have seen something that has come out from the "purdah." Is it necessary to go back to the source of the Ganges?

My friend wants to become a film producer with bank balance nil?

Mehboob, Kardar, Chandulal Shah, Raj Kapoor and many others began with the same balance.

What is Israel?

Israel is the conscience of Christianity pledged with the Arabs.

It appears India will definitely go Red?

Appears? You are colour-blind. Look at the ruddy complexion of our great Prime Minister.

Who is Dange?

He is the Managing Director of the national organization called "Hindi-Russi Bhai Bhai."

I think God is not merciful?

Don't you see any corpses in Mainpuri? The dead are covered with His mercy. The living ones beg for mercy from Tax-Terror Krishnamachari.

DR. MISS S. AYENGAR (New Delhi)

Alas! I cannot think of a 12th question?

Your plugs have stopped sparking. It is time you got married, Shanta. Once married, you will never run short of questions.

MRS. VAGAL CHHAYA (Bombay)

I can honestly say that my husband is the only man who has ever kissed me?

Now, don't brag about it otherwise they won't let you go to the ladies' clubs where the qualification for admission is the talent to hold a hundred assorted kisses and yet not lose the husband.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK THE LAST ONE TO CHANGE HIS BRAND OF CIGAR? THAT BURMA SMELL UPSETS MY BILE
THAT'S NOT BURMA, RAMESH. THAT IS HAVANA. I HAD A DUTCH SAILOR-BOY TODAY FOR THE LAST DANCE. HE CALLED ME FOR A DRIVE BUT I KNEW YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME. ARE YOU GOING TO WORK MORE, DARLING?

JAGDISH G. SAMBRANI (Bombay)

Jagdish Sambrani of Dharwar is still living. But do you remember him?

I'll remember him only when he passes his L.L.B.

I was born on 20th November 1930 at midnight.

Stop being sentimental, get out of your dreamland, don't expect others to help you, fix up a single goal and pursue it. You'll need an ear-nose-throat specialist very often. Don't marry. Your marriage will be unhappy. Remember, singleness of purpose alone will save you from fits of mental depression and ruin.

GHATOOT SHAH M. (Java)

I consider Shyama as my own sister. Do you?

No! She is too smart to be wasted as a sister. Besides, I am not a Congress minister to collect sisters.

SANTOK SINGH (New Delhi)

Did you ever meet the late M. N. Roy?

Yes, but he was then an exploded bomb. I found it difficult to put the pieces together, though some of them still smelt of gunpowder.

PREM C. SINHA (Arrah)

Can Geeta Bali handle a motor car?

A woman who can manage Shammi Kapoor can handle anything. A car has the brakes to help.

If Jane Russell and Mohana collide?

There will be a milk-bomb explosion.

AKHTAR BEG (Jaipatna)

Why does it take nine months for a baby to be born?

In India it should have been nine years.

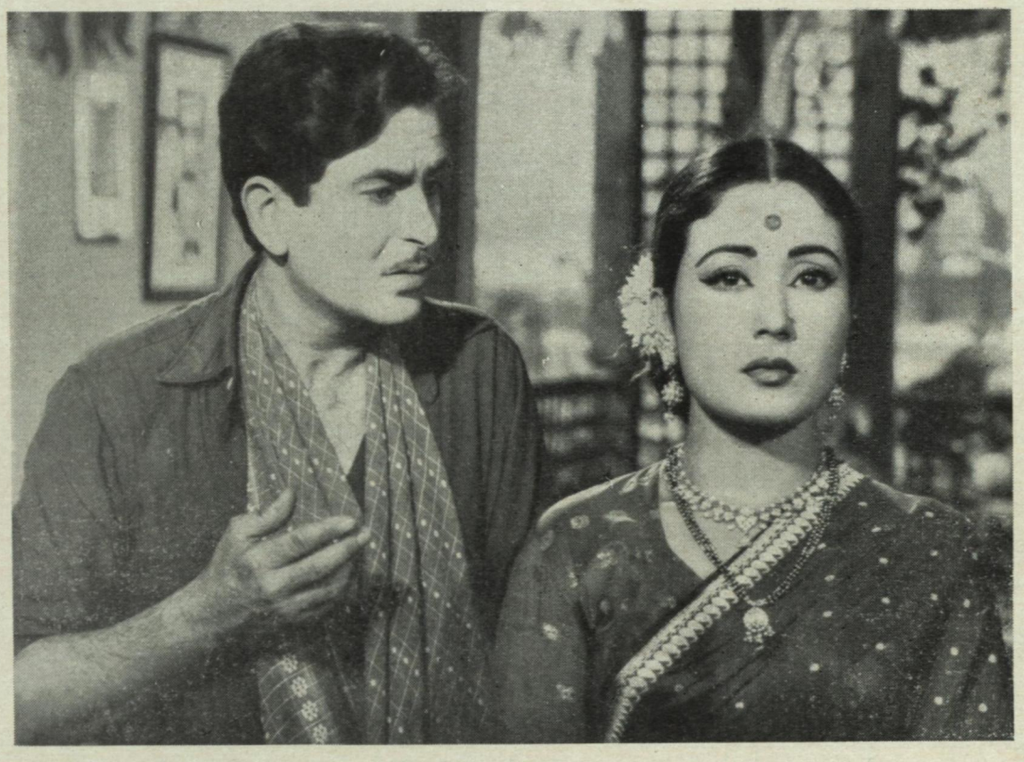
C. T. RAO (Masulipatam)

How are pillows helpful to bachelors?

They can be crushed without being threatened with a divorce.

If Government imposes tax on drinking water?

In Bombay drinking water is sold by the Municipality.



Men never understand their wives. They can never read the message in the silent tears they see. They get puzzled and wonder why the other woman should at all worry the wife at home. But housewives also have hearts that can be hurt. Raj Kapoor is giving an unconvincing explanation to Meena Kumari in "Sharda", a thrilling tale of love directed by Prasad.

What is the reason for a shortage of girls in Pakistan?

Each man wants four women legally and half-a-dozen illegally, without counting those that are employed in earning American dollars. The consumption is faster than the supply.

RAM L. NAKRA (Jullundur)

If Sheikh Abdullah had wings?

He has grown them now. He will soon try them. Watch the skies, Ram.

A BOMB! THE CRESCENT! A PAKISTANI PLANE!
YES, PAKISTANIS BUILD THEIR PLANES WITH A TRAITOR'S FACE TO REMIND US OF THE PEOPLE AROUND US

If Omar Khayyam had seen Amrit Kaur?

Hasn't he already written: "The worldly hope men set their hearts upon Turns ashes—or it prospers; And anon like snow upon the desert's dusty face. Lighting a little hour or two—is gone?" Amrit Kaur has now the chance to light a little hour with the vision she got in the darkness of power.

Men use words to apologize.

And women use blushes. And even while admitting a mistake they look more beautiful.

Did Adam ever snore?

Why should he? He had nothing on his conscience. Not even a cotton scandal, leave alone cotton!

Why are all foreigners so excited to see Nehru?

Foreigners are always thrilled to see museum pieces.

A Congressman here told me, "Baburao Patel is a trouble-maker".

As if I made the people resort to roots and barks of trees to fill their hungry stomachs.

D. WILLIAM MOSES (Mannargudi)

Will Pakistan prosper in the long run?

No! Brutes can only run a jungle.

What should a devoted wife do when her husband becomes a victim of another woman?

Lend silent patience to her devotion and pray. He will come back. No husband has yet left a home unless his wife has driven him out.

You are the only person in the world who has not forgotten about the jeep scandal. Why so?

The Jack is on the jeep now taking salutes. That is putting a premium on a scandal.

Is it a fact that you have a Mangalore Christian 'ayah' at your "Girnar" home?

I have a number of Mangalorians in my home. One of them cut the nose of a pretty woman the other day.

K. A. K. AYYANGAR (Vellore)

What are the uses of pig tails?

They can be used to pull the mule in the right direction. That is why we don't see pig tails these days.

YOU ARE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, HONEY. YOU ARE GOING TO PLAY BRIDGE WITH ME AND BABY
MUMMY, DON'T GO. I WANT YOU
I MUST GO. I HAVE A BRIDGE APPOINTMENT AT THE CLUB

You criticise women who wear the Bikini. It is said that even the 'gopis' of Lord Krishna bathed naked in the rivers?

But there were no Kodak cameras in those days and men were not Peeping Toms.

I get inspiration from "filmindia". What about you?

I maintain my respiration.

How are Brahmins as a social race?

Their acute sense of cleanliness, cultivated through ages, makes them unreasonably unsocial. It needs divinity to accept lepers as members of the human family.

If you refuse to supply copies of "filmindia" to clubs and libraries?

I'll increase my sales but lose my friends. It will be caddish to keep knowledge beyond the reach of our middle classes.

Is it good for a man to marry a woman who once divorced him?

People often put a new sole on an old shoe and make it serviceable.

What would happen if the Life Insurance Corporation of India insures the character of girls?

Premiums would be paid in time and the policies will not be allowed to lapse.

PAY YOUR PREMIUM AND SAVE YOUR CHARACTER
LIFE CORPORATION OF INDIA
AREN'T YOU A PROSTITUTE?
YES, BUT I GIVE MORE VALUE FOR THE MONEY I GET THAN THE GOVERNMENT GIVES FOR THE TAXES IT GETS

Why do you say that a wife is a jeep on war duty?

Look at the jars and jolts she absorbs without breaking the axle.

T. S. RAO (Bombay)

Do you think that Mr. A. D. Shroff's "Forum Of Free Enterprise" is going to succeed in the long run?

No! Anything that shivers doesn't succeed.

MISS N. CHANDRA (Madras)

Differentiate between rumour and scandal?

Scandal is the filth, rumour is its stink.

R. S. CHITNIS (Poona)

If Buddha takes birth again?

And collide with Nehru? Buddha is wise. He wants Buddhism to be popular.

K. R. ADVANI (Bombay)

I am sure Dilip Kumar is a pessimist?

A pessimist doesn't go hunting.

M. K. MOHAN (Madras)

If you were locked in a room with Nehru for two days?

The second Five-Year Plan would have a better chance of success.

MISS KAMLESH (New Delhi)

What substitute do you suggest for a husband?

A husband can be substituted, my dear, but not a man.

K. SATYAMURTI (Bombay)

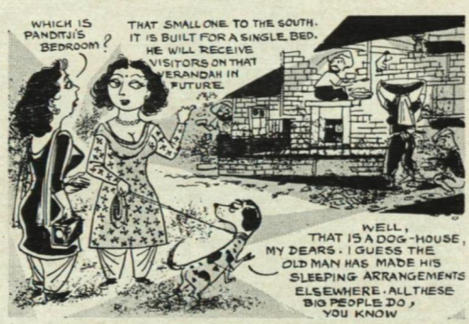
Land for tillers—when will it come?

It has come and the tillers have begun to rape Mother Earth.

S. K. VASUDEVA (Hoshiarpur)

In order to set a personal standard in austerity, Nehru is moving to a smaller house?

Yes, that is the latest scandal. Hundreds of New Delhi women are already visiting the site in wonder and sympathy.


WHICH IS PANDITJI'S BEDROOM?
THAT SMALL ONE TO THE SOUTH. IT IS BUILT FOR A SINGLE BED. HE WILL RECEIVE VISITORS ON THAT VERANDAH IN FUTURE.
WELL, THAT IS A DOG-HOUSE, MY DEARS. I GUESS THE OLD MAN HAS MADE HIS SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS ELSEWHERE. ALL THESE BIG PEOPLE DO, YOU KNOW

JYOTISH C. MOHANTY (Cuttack)

In regard to the refusal to admit an Indian family to an Air France plane, what action would be the best?

Keep a washing room at the airport.

When art and youth combine the poetry of sex is complete. Vyjayantimala becomes irresistible in "Aasha", a romantic tale produced and directed by M. V. Raman.

A. CHANDRAMAULI (New Delhi)

The "Hindustan Times" publishes every Sunday not less than six-and-a-half columns of matrimonial advertisements. What does it indicate?

That people still believe in gambling. Taxes can make any one desperate.

R. K. Karanjia is trying to be the greatest admirer of Pandit Nehru?

Poor Russi! He is always late on the scene.

P. D. JAIN (Ajmer)

You say A. R. Kardar is rich. Then why can't he pay up your dues?

Kardar doesn't believe in paying Indians.

P. PANDARINATH (Hyderabad)

Does Keskar do surya-namaskars daily?

He does Nehru-namaskars. They guarantee his job. Balu Baldy can't risk a sunstroke with surya-namaskars.

What is India's latest invention?

The Expenditure Tax. It taxes the pennies of the people and winks at the crores which the Congress rulers waste.

SUBHASH J. RELE (Bombay)

If I call you a poet?

You will waste a word on prose.

What is the marriageable age of a Burmese girl?

I once met a thirteen-year-old girl with a mother's equipment.

Do you deserve a statue?

I deserve a relief fund. A statue gives life to the dead, a relief fund gives a lease to the living.

Who owns the Congress?

Its title-deeds are deposited with the Communists.

MY LORD, I GAVE DANGE KERALA. WHAT MORE DOES HE WANT?
KERALA WAS MERELY THE INTEREST ON THE LOAN OF SOCIALISM. MY LORD. I WANT THE LOAN BACK
DON'T WORRY NEHRU. I'LL SOON PAY YOU BACK THE LOAN, DANGE

On what do eunuchs survive?

On the curiosity of both the sexes.

When Feroze Gandhi yawns?

They put a Dalmia biscuit into his mouth.

Is K. N. Singh romantic?

An old lion appreciates a hot meal but is too rheumatic to chase. A little Urdu poetry is all that Singh can use as a teaser.

How does Attaullah Khan differ from Allah Bux?

Attaullah believes in keeping his Amrohis under his own roof.

DEVI CHAND (Kota)

Tell me frankly the precautions I should take to save myself from the sure-to-come harassment of the Income Tax Department?

Don't wear a good dress, don't have a beautiful wife, don't buy a car, don't open a bank account, don't be seen in clubs and public places, don't build a house, don't be in the news—in short, don't live a normal

That is rather an intriguing family situation and even Om Prakash, the comedian, would not like to face it with Anita Guha in a temper for flinging things at people. Agha, Manorama and Shyama are evidently alarmed in "Sharda", an exciting tale of love with plenty of exciting women in it.

life if you wish to escape the tax vultures. If you cannot do all that, ask your father or father-in-law to become a Congress minister. You can then drive two Mercedes Benz cars over the corpses of a hundred citizens without even the police looking at you twice.

B. R. SEHGAL (Amla)

My Sikh friend is very much interested in Anglo-Indian girls?

His beard might give her glimpses of her parish priest and make her religious.

Why did a brilliant man like Jayaprakash Narayan fail in Indian politics?

J.P. is honest in thought and fibre. Indian politics needs crooked corkscrews.

I am a scoundrel in one respect?

I appreciate your modesty in underrating your versatility.

A. J. MIRZA (Bombay)

Did you pay Raj Kapoor a condolence visit?

One doesn't condole over gains.

MEHTA S. PRAKASH (Meerut)

Why do you always criticise Nehru?

His one ear is still open. The other is in Maulana's hands. The rest are deaf.

KAMAL KISHORE (Ahmedabad)

Why do you dislike to be addressed as uncle?

Why add wrinkles to an old desire?

What does Snehaprabha Pradhan lack?

Anchor! She has a good keel though.

Is Kardar in need of money?

A man whose wife is holidaying in jeans in Switzerland cannot be hard up.

When two Ahmedabadis visit a restaurant, they order only one cup of tea and share fifty-fifty. How economical are we Ahmedabadis?

But I suppose you fellows need two different wives at least?

A Gujarati sometimes loves his mother-in-law more than his own mother?

That is merely an emotion for the bank balance.

Is Indulal Yagnik a simpleton?

He was a film producer once.

Truly I appreciate the politeness of Miss Sheila Patel?

You must have met her in her moment of absolute absent-mindedness.

A. L. SETHI (Kharagpur)

People talk ill of Dr. B. C. Roy here?

He must be a good and successful man.

If you embraced Buddhism you'll get two lakhs of followers in a day. Why don't you try it?

I want two lakhs of rupees—not followers, Buddhism doesn't promise that.

What is a heaven-made marriage?

That is a one night marriage which disappears after sunrise.

Who is an 'ayah'?

That is a peace pigeon in a Parsi home. She meets the urgent needs of the master without depriving the mistress of her rights.

MARY, ASK YOUR MISTRESS WHETHER SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE METRO
MARY, TELL THE IDIOT THAT THERE IS A BETTER PICTURE AT THE REGAL
I THINK I MUST GO TO GOA FOR A FEW DAYS

Shakespeare says that a man who has no ear for music can commit a murder?

Shantaram did kill the spirit of Jayashree.

Poor Iris?

Don't poor her. She still has me though thousands of miles away.

Is Shashi proud of you?

Yes, on pay days.

Who loves Jayashree now?

I do, as I always did. Jayashree is a charming girl.

Dr. Hare Krushna Mahtab is also a little squint?

He has been keeping a cockeye on his Congress colleagues. All honest Congressmen have that defect.

Kharagpur has no museum?

No wonder you feel so homeless. Isn't there a zoo at least?

Punjabi women are so callous and nagging?

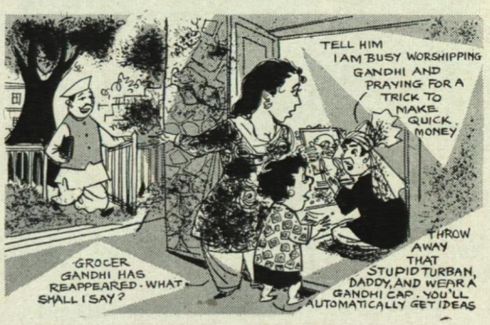
I won't say it and invite trouble.

Sunil Dutt is a good announcer but not a good actor?

You'll change your opinion when you see him in "Mother India".

If Christ reappears?

He won't! Don't exercise your mind unnecessarily. Watch your grocer's appearances, instead.


TELL HIM I AM BUSY WORSHIPPING GANDHI AND PRAYING FOR A TRICK TO MAKE QUICK MONEY
GROCER GANDHI HAS REAPPEARED · WHAT SHALL I SAY?
THROW AWAY THAT STUPID TURBAN, DADDY, AND WEAR A GANDHI CAP · YOU'LL AUTOMATICALLY GET IDEAS

Tendulkar is in love?

Only with his mirror.

S. KANAGASABESAN (Guntakal)

What is your opinion about the acting of Shivaji Ganeshan?

He is very good for Ram-lilas. He can play Ravan, Hanuman or even Sita.

P. C. BANSAL (Bombay)

My first job in Bombay gave me no money but plenty of girls?

You seem to have landed in a wrong locality.

K. PATTANNA (Madras)

Lohia says that Kamaraj of Madras is the fittest man to be the Prime Minister of India after Nehru?

I feel the same way. We need some rest from tall words and press photographs. Kamaraj doesn't speak and the newspapers won't repeat his photograph twice.

H. R. KARNIK (Bombay)

Who rules New Delhi?

Nehru rules the overground, Azad controls the underground.

MISS USHA KIRON (Ahmedabad)

Should a woman learn to shed crocodile tears?

They are useful for normal social purposes. The genuine ones are so rare and expensive these days.

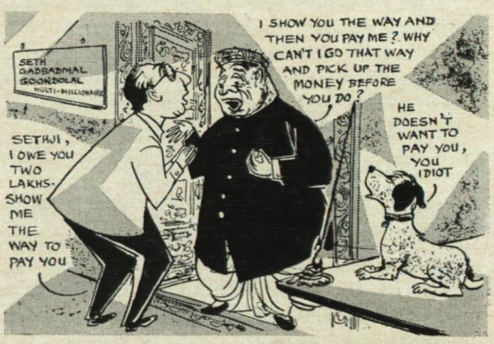
Haven't you sympathy for the Indian princes?

I have no sympathy for idiots who allow the Government to take their money rather than use it themselves to do some good to the people.

T. C. THAKER (Ahmedabad)

How to console creditors?

Meet them when they are angry.


SETH GADBADMAL GOONDOLAL
MULTI-MILLIONAIRE
SETHJI, I OWE YOU TWO LAKHS-SHOW ME THE WAY TO PAY YOU
I SHOW YOU THE WAY AND THEN YOU PAY ME? WHY CAN'T I GO THAT WAY AND PICK UP THE MONEY BEFORE YOU DO?
HE DOESN'T WANT TO PAY YOU, YOU IDIOT

Why do Americans take little interest in cricket?

Cricket is a gentleman's game.

Why was Gope, though a Hindu, buried?

Gope was born in a Hindu mother's bed but died in one belonging to a Christian wife. The corpse usually takes its rights from the last bed.

Girls here crave to meet you?

Ahmedabad girls are too economic in upholstery for me to be interested.

MRS. RAJANI DEVI (Bombay)

Pandit Nehru's future?

A man on the top of the Everest has no more to climb.

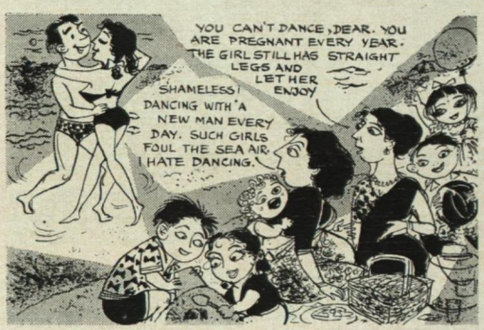
Do you wash your own clothes?

I have not yet attained that stage of pretence because I am not quite ready to become a Congress minister.

S. NAIDU (Hyderabad)

Do women change after marriage?

Yes, they often become bigger hypocrites and quote scriptures to make their scrips yield a better dividend.


YOU CAN'T DANCE, DEAR. YOU ARE PREGNANT EVERY YEAR. THE GIRL STILL HAS STRAIGHT LEGS AND LET HER ENJOY
SHAMELESS! DANCING WITH A NEW MAN EVERY DAY. SUCH GIRLS FOUL THE SEA AIR. I HATE DANCING.

MRS. KAPIL (Ahmedabad)

Who eclipses Geeta Bali?

Ragini is threatening to.

S. T. ARASAN (Madras)

Would you like your wife wearing sleeveless blouses?

I would cut off her arms without any ceremony.

K. SUBRAYAN (Madras)

What is the best treatment for amoebic dysentery?

First make sure that it is amoebic and then take 6 to 12 hypodermic injections of Emetine in one grain doses. Emetine is an alkaloid of Ipecac and is a powerful amoebicide.

I am a Canarese Brahmin and I love an Iyer girl. We both belong to the Stenotypist Party. We want to get married. My mother agrees but father objects. I want his blessings. What to do?

Get your amoebic dysentery cured first. Then go to the Registrar and get married. Leave father to your mother. He will soon get your amoebic dysentery and agree to receive you both with a smile. You don't know what specific remedies mothers are.

NANDLAL D. DATTA (Indore)

Why are you so much after our beloved Prime Minister Pandit Nehru?

Only the beloved are chased. Who worries about the rest?

Do you love your enemies?

When an actor takes a great man as a model to mimic, he often ends by emphasizing the unreachable talents of the model. Raj Kapoor often thinks that he has Charlie Chaplin in him but baggy trousers don't make a Chaplin. Anyway, let us see what good old Raj is about in "Reporter", a sensational social tale produced by C. M. Trivedi.

I don't notice enemies and lend a status to small men.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

Why does the Press celebrate Nehru's birthday as a national festival?

Our Government is the biggest advertiser in the country and a supplement on Nehru's birthday brings advertisements from all the departments of the Government.

M. G. SOMAN (Akola)

What was your first crime?

Murder of my mother when I was only four. Though 54 I am still being punished for it.

Is Chavan giving you a fair deal?

His government has filed two frivolous criminal prosecutions against me to flatter Morarji.

What do you think of our Customs and Central Excise Department?

It has suddenly got an attack of honesty and collected a lot of smuggled gold.

I tried to stop reading "filmindia" and I succeeded!

But you are still at my throat with a Priority Coupon?

Why do we usually indicate progress by statistics?

It is easier to produce figures of rice than grains of rice.

MRS. DEVI SINGH (Jaipur)

I will be visiting Bombay shortly. What present shall I bring you from Rajasthan?

Get me a beautiful marble idol of Lord Shiva from Jaipur. Note the word "beautiful".

P. M. RAO (Masulipatnam)

Why is America so unpopular?

Its gold has no grace.

LACHMAN NAOOMAL T. (Bombay)

Is Communism the greatest danger to the world?

Yes. It designs to turn the world into one big colony of State slaves.

LOOK AT HIM

* His nose itches, or he has cold in the throat
* He sits up in bed or he runs to the window
* He feels choked and pants for breath
* His inspiration is short and quick
* His expiration is hard and long
* He sweats as he coughs
* His lips are pale
* His face tells a tale

THAT IS ASTHMA

A picture of Pity and Anxiety—Too deep for tears

CHANGE IT INTO ONE OF HOPE AND JOY

USE

NAVRATNA KALPA

A compound of nine gems:-
Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Pearl, Emerald, Topaz, Agate, Cat's-eye and Coral

Invented by:

Pt. Durga Datt Vaidya, Kaviraj
Vaidya-Vachaspati

Free literature on request from :—

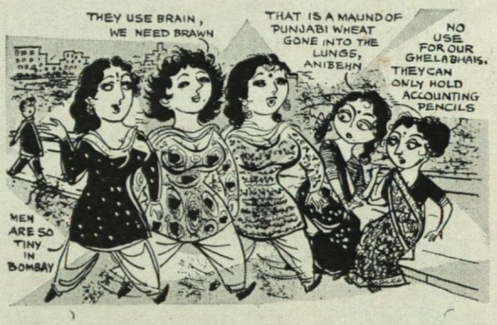
NAVRATNA KALPA PHARMACY

Jullunder City (India)

SUNDER BHOJWANI (Gandhidham)

Are the Punjabi girls the most beautiful among the Indian communities?

In India you find beautiful girls in all communities but the Punjabi girls hit the eye more often. It is impossible to hold them inside their homes.


THEY USE BRAIN, WE NEED BRAWN
THAT IS A MAUND OF PUNJABI WHEAT GONE INTO THE LUNGS, ANIBEHN
NO USE FOR OUR GHELA BHAIS. THEY CAN ONLY HOLD ACCOUNTING PENCILS
MEN ARE SO TINY IN BOMBAY

G. RAMA RAO (Kothagudium)

I like Nehru's speeches?

I also like them till he begins to wander.

When does Morarji laugh?

Morarji never had a talent for laughing. Laughing is an art which requires a lot of humanity.

I wish to succeed in life. Give me some advice, Mr. Patel?

Forget the word "success" and keep working. One day when you hear someone else attach the word to you, be very careful.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

What are our embassies doing?

Helping us to complete our Rs. 6200 crore—Plan in five years. Otherwise we would need two years more to spend that money.

Have we got a flying saucer?

Our Prime Minister! He talks like a man from the moon too.

What is subtle bribing?

Invite the officer for flush and kill your aces.

I HAVE GOT YOU ANUP I'LL TAKE BACK THOSE TWO THOUSAND
DON'T BE SILLY, DEAR-REMEMBER OUR CASE- WE STAND TO LOSE TWO LAKHS- DON'T MAKE A SHOW- I'LL BUY YOU A DIAMOND RING
WELL, DEVI, MY FORTUNE IS IN MY POWER-NOT IN CARDS

If Namboodripad, Chief Minister of Kerala, extends his invitation to Baburao Patel of "filmindia"?

It is too early. I don't want to assess intentions, I want to add up the results. I'll visit Kerala in 1961 without the invitation of its Chief Minister.

How to silence a Punjabi?

Put two furlongs between you and him quickly. Run a little if necessary. Running is a good exercise.

I don't believe in V. K. Krishna Menon's celibacy. Do you?

Celibacy is not a religion that one should believe in it.

Does "filmindia" go to Russia?

Yes, and it is carefully read.

V. B. SHUKLA (Kanpur)

When will you become spiritual, babs?

Ten days in a month I become spiritual on two units.

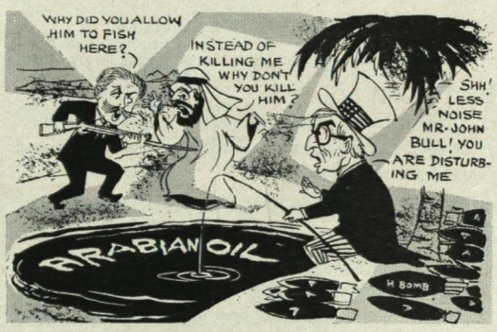
My poverty compels me to teach a young prostitute girl of 16. Any danger?

Poverty has no chastity, neither has prostitution. Both of you are safe. If an accident happens neither of you will be hurt.

S. MANOHAR (Patiala)

Is Harold Macmillan happy today?

With the Americans fishing for the Arabian oil, no British Prime Minister is going to be happy for a long time to come.


WHY DID YOU ALLOW HIM TO FISH HERE?
INSTEAD OF KILLING ME WHY DON'T YOU KILL HIM?
SHH! LESS NOISE MR. JOHN BULL! YOU ARE DISTURBING ME
ARABIAN OIL
H Bomb

Has Padmini vacant eyes?

Raj Kapoor doesn't think so. He thinks they have rare magic and mystery.

Is Fredda Brilliant a good sculptress?

The statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, which she has made for the Vallabhbhai Stadium in Bombay, seems to be of a man unknown to Indians. It is so hideous that even Dahyabhai could not recognize his own father.

M. S. RAMJEE (Eluru)

Nehru always emphasizes peace and Panchshila. Why not truth?

Truth is a torch which first reveals the face of the man who holds it. A man, who buried the jeep scandal, cannot be a torchbearer of truth.

If Nehru is replaced by Dhebar?

There is little to choose between a pigeon and a penguin.

I. SIVA DASA MENON (Madras)

Has Kardar any production unit in Pakistan?

He will soon have one, if negotiations in London succeed.

J. V. IYER (Bombay)

What is T.T.K.'s latest?

He is encouraging Income Tax Officers to draw blood from tax-payers without hurting the victims. It is no more milk now.

H. M. KASKAR (Cape Town)

Is Morarji Desai happy in New Delhi?

Well, he comes to Bombay very often. Every criminal, it is said, returns to the scene of his crime.

MRS. VIJAYA Y. JOSHI (Kalyan)

Tell me the greatest joke of the year.

10% austerity cut with 10 times travelling allowance!

THAKUR ADVANI (Bombay)

Why don't modern college girls maintain an attractive bust-line?

Foam-rubber is too expensive for amateur hunting.

MRS. KANAKA K. PANDA (Sambalpur)

Who will be most happy to hear the news of your death?

I think even my so-called enemies will miss me for a while. I have made them laugh standing in their own furnace of hatred.

MISS KANWAL BAJAJ (Delhi)

Pandit Nehru has started playing with lion's cubs?

He is getting ready for a war with Pakistan.

P. S. GOEL (Meerut)

Is there any way to cure tuberculosis?

Sit six hours in the sun every day, take a pound of cod-liver oil every month and do Lt. Muller's deep breathing exercises twice a day. Do this for three years and you will look a picture of good health.

What is an Indian wife's job?

Worship her husband and turn the man into a god.

Why do people call you a drunkard?

How do people, a thousand miles away in Meerut, know what I drink and how much I drink?

Are you prepared to sacrifice everything for your cause?

I have no cause, I have only a country.

A. MARIA DASS (Ipoh)

Gosh! Is Bombay really that bad as Raj makes it out to be?

A city is always as bad as the man who lives in it.

K. G. MATHUR (Ghaziabad)

"filmindia" spelt with a small 'f'?

And yet I am harassed by the Income Tax people. Had I spelt it with a capital "F", they would have put me in jail.

Women take all their disappointments in love to the family altar. It is rather tough on the family deities seeing that when women fall in love they select devils without consulting the deities. Meena Kumari is at the formal altar with a grievance in her prayer and Raj Mehra is trying to console her in "Sharda", a social tale directed by Prasad for Prasad Productions.

D. S. JAMWAL (Bangalore)

What is frustration?

Freedom after 10 years of Nehru.

YUSUF A. DAWOODI (Kepala Batas)

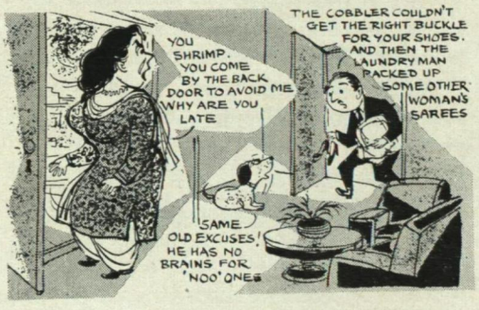
Can one compare Nehru with Bhishma of Mahabharata?

But Bhishma was a celibate.

S. MANOHAR (Patiala)

What is a waiting wife?

A time-bomb aching for a spark!


YOU SHRIMP, YOU COME BY THE BACK DOOR TO AVOID ME. WHY ARE YOU LATE
THE COBBLER COULDN'T GET THE RIGHT BUCKLE FOR YOUR SHOES. AND THEN THE LAUNDRY MAN PACKED UP SOME OTHER WOMAN'S SAREES
SAME OLD EXCUSES! HE HAS NO BRAINS FOR 'NOO' ONES

Does Ashok Kumar feel disgusted now?

A man who has a new chicken on his menu every day has no cause to complain.

D. J. JHALA (Bombay)

Will Raj Kapoor rise again?

Yes, and he will be more successful than ever before. He once built on nothing. Today he has experience and a reputation as a successful producer. I always pray for his success because I love youth.

Do you practise homoeopathy, Dr. Patel?

I treat the poor free for pursuing my research in this science. My ultimate aim is to write a very useful book.

It is high time you gave final touches to your will!

No one will rush to grab debts.

I don't think you like anybody's nose?

I love Nutan's nose.

Aren't you bone-tired?

I am, but the flesh is weak.

Compare Sonali Dasgupta with Ingrid Bergman?

I like Sonali. She is a weed from my garden. What use are flowers to me from an alien paradise?

MRS. JAYANTIKA DESAI (Bombay)

"It is absurd to imagine that India will invade Ceylon", so said Nehru.

The last invasion gave us a beautiful epic, "The Ramayana". But these days it is difficult to find a Sita worth kidnapping.

B. C. MIRCHANDANI (New Delhi)

By calling Congressmen donkeys, aren't you insulting donkeys?

I am but then donkeys are philosophic creatures with a rare sense of humour. They won't mind.

What is India gaining by Nehru's visits to foreign countries?

It is losing valuable foreign exchange to bring home some hollow words of polite praise.

V. L. NARAYANA (Howrah)

Can Punjabis talk gently?

You don't know how they coo for a woman first time. Next morning they go back to themselves.

I AM A WORM, TRAMPLE UPON ME. I AM A SNAKE, KILL ME WITH A STICK. I AM A SWINE, MAKE HAM OUT OF ME. I AM A DOG, GIVE ME POISON. I AM A DONKEY, KICK ME IF YOU LIKE. BUT GRANT ME HEAVEN FOR ONE NIGHT. OH GODDESS OF MY DREAMS
HOW IS YOUR MEMORY, OM? I HOPE YOU DON'T FORGET THESE WORDS TOMORROW

I have stopped praying for Nehru's health?

That is not the right thing to do. The man Nehru—if not the Prime Minister—in spite of his thousand defects, is a loveable man. May he live a hundred years!

I have a firm belief in Sai Baba?

He is one saint who seems to have attracted the largest number of crooks as his devotees. Keep away, therefore, from the crooks.

Does any one know our Dhebarbhai in foreign countries?

They say he had an offer from the Ringling Brothers—the circus people.

SUNDARESAN (Calcutta)

What is the solution for the East Bengal refugee problem?

Reclaim the part of the Sunderbans that is left to us. If the Bengalis cannot do it, the Sikhs can. Sunderbans' tigers cannot digest a Sikh easily.

H. L. SETHI (New Delhi)

Mao Tse-Tung says, "Let a hundred flowers blossom"?

He has recently opened slave-labour camps to give scope to a million flowers to blossom.

Ike will become a farmer when he retires?

Ike won't work on the farm. He is not destined to.

Is India in danger?

That is what Pandit Nehru says now. I told you that five years ago.

MISS USHA KIRON (Ahmedabad)

I never drop a coin in a temple?

A wise girl! God doesn't want a Congress coin.

What to remember in the next elections?

Flirting is a religion with women. Neither age nor climate stops them. All they need is a man who pulls the trigger of their emotions. Shashikala plays the temptress in "Raja Beta", a domestic romance produced by Vallabh Productions.

The things you sold to buy food during the previous five years.

T. P. ABDULLA (Kasaragod)

Why does Raj Kapoor hate Mehboob?

I don't know whether he does but hatreds have hidden springs and it is difficult to say how they work.

What is your bank balance?

I have disowned all banks these days. They don't belong to the people any more. They are turned into spying organizations by the Government.

C. V. RAJAN (Calcutta)

Are you a pessimist?

A pessimist never fights back. I never look back.

Can India produce another Nehru?

Let us not have too many counterfeits. With Morarji aping the Mahatma we know how difficult it is to pass off copper as gold.

SUBHASH J. RELE (Bombay)

What does the ex-Maharaja of Baroda possess?

Only his vices! His main virtue—money—is in the hands of white-capped dacoits.

Must there be another Mahatma?

Our soil is so soft and spiritual that you can't help but grow them.

Can Kardar see his back?

We shall soon see his back.

Can an income-tax officer frighten you?

Not now! I have lost all respect for him. Most of the officers are anti-social in their approach to life and should be treated as lepers of society.

Are air-hostesses sweet to talk?

Not in the mornings but only in the evenings after brush and bath.

Does truth really help you?

It has landed me into a lot of trouble. Truth has a short step unless it is put on the stilts of lies.

If Shashi Patel marries an Anglo-Indian girl?

Shashi Patel doesn't have the capital assets. He has only Christianity.

Is it true that Kardar is broke?

That is his national anthem but the wife and a daughter of a man who is broke don't have a long holiday in Europe.

C. R. NATARAJAN (Bombay)

I cannot understand your sympathy for Israel which is more than helped by big powers?

Had you been a Jew, persecuted through centuries, you would have understood me better.

Smriti Biswas can paint?

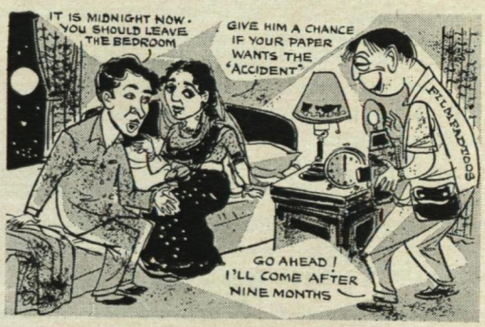
She has not prepared the canvas of a husband yet. She must be specializing in nature study.

Are we arming against Pakistan or against U.S.A.?

Where did you get that fairy tale that we are arming? We are only searching for our buttons to save the trousers from being wetted.

Shammi Kapoor had an accident and a reporter rushed to see him!

The reporter was there first and the "accident" came afterwards.


IT IS MIDNIGHT NOW. YOU SHOULD LEAVE THE BEDROOM
GIVE HIM A CHANCE IF YOUR PAPER WANTS THE 'ACCIDENT'
GO AHEAD! I'LL COME AFTER NINE MONTHS

I want to know if you have genuine respect for Rajaji?

I respect thoughts, never a man.

Do you have any homoeopathic remedy for chronic cold?

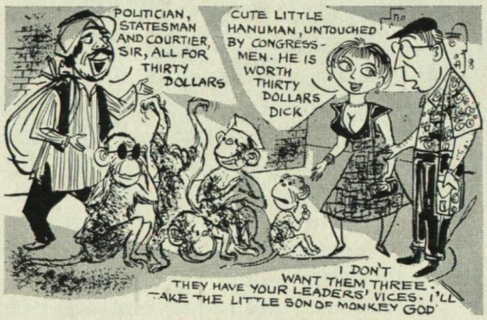
A chronic cold requires careful overhauling. Go to a homoeopathic physician

and let him check up whether there is any tubercular diathesis.

MISS MANASVITA (Ahmedabad)

Why is there so much demand for Indian monkeys?

They are our only genuine relics of Ram Rajya. Their ancient purity appeals to the foreigners.


POLITICIAN, STATESMAN AND COURTIER, SIR, ALL FOR THIRTY DOLLARS
CUTE LITTLE HANUMAN, UNTOUCHED BY CONGRESSMEN. HE IS WORTH THIRTY DOLLARS DICK
I DON'T WANT THEM, THREE. THEY HAVE YOUR LEADERS' VICES. I'LL TAKE THE LITTLE SON OF MONKEY GOD

India is a very poor country yet her Prime Minister spends more money on foreign tours than the Prime Minister of any other rich country?

Our Prime Minister has to run the whole world because we are a mature nation with plenty of free advice. Free advice requires home delivery.

VERGHESE CHERIAN (Bahrain)

Is there any difference between a socialistic pattern of society and Communism?

First is a shiver, the second is actually the fever.

B. MOHANTY (Cuttack)

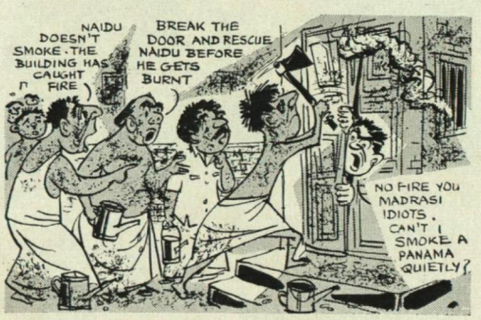
Keskar again in charge of broadcasting?

Our radio industry has no chance for another five years.

K. BALACHANDRA NAIDU (Birur)

How to control smoking?

Smoking cannot be controlled. It must be stopped suddenly and completely and you must brag about your success and will-power before all your friends and improve your chances further by calling your smoking friends as weak-kneed, spineless sissies without any will or wisdom of their own. After all that you can risk a cigarette only in your W.C. Take 4 pills of homoeopathic Plantago Major 6, three times a day to help you. The drug causes an aversion to tobacco.


NAIDU DOESN'T SMOKE. THE BUILDING HAS CAUGHT FIRE
BREAK THE DOOR AND RESCUE NAIDU BEFORE HE GETS BURNT
NO FIRE YOU MADRASI IDIOTS. CAN'T I SMOKE A PANAMA QUIETLY?

Film stars play the bride so often in motion pictures that they don't feel like risking a re-take in actual life. Many therefore walk through life as synthetic brides without bedrooms of their own. Madhubala plays the beautiful bride once again in "Gateway Of India", a romantic tale produced and directed by Om Prakash, the comedian.

How to convince a suspecting wife?

The more explanations you give the greater your worry. Besides you might unconsciously involve the other obliging woman. This is an occasion where silence is golden leaving the wife to ask the questions and answer them herself.

Is it true that you are poor?

It is desperately true at the moment, but one can never say. This is the seventh attack of poverty I have had in the last 35 years.

G. ANNAJI RAO (Kothagudium)

Of late Jagjivan Ram is wearing a red rose in his button hole. What is the idea?

He probably wants people to think of him as our next Prime Minister. Jagjivan is quite a subtle chap. He wants people to get used to the idea slowly. I shall, of course, welcome a Harijan Prime Minister. He won't make Brahmin mistakes like Goa and Kashmir.

ROOP H. KALYANI (Calcutta)

Baburao Patel and Tendulkar?

Tendulkar is a protected national monument.

What harm is there if we Sindhis claim a piece of province in Bengal?

You Sindhis have got the whole of India now. Why do you bother about a small piece?

Is V. Shantaram good at figures?

Yes, but not at faces.

I have a great desire to meet Putli, the notorious dacoit. Any harm?

Your mother will lose a son and there will be one good Sindhi less in the world. Putli eats young men.

PREM C. SINHA (Arrah)

I was down with 'flu and so was my wife. Any sympathy for us?

Sympathy doesn't restore health. Take 4 pills of the biochemic remedy Kali Phos 6X four times a day till you become fit again.

Why the Government employees are not so keen about their work these days?

Hunger always blunts the edge of duty.

What is the most singular privilege Pandit Nehru is enjoying as the Prime Minister of India?

He can talk nonsense and get away.

F. ANTHONY (Madras)

Goddess Fortune has lost my address. What shall I do?

Go to your church and leave your address there.

MRS. LAXMI (Nandikotkur)

Why do the Hindus, particularly women, go to the durgahs of Muslim saints with flowers?

To encourage the living Muslims to be good and share the flowers with the saints.

We are fast becoming foreign in our culture. The cholis of our women are losing their identity. Shashikala thrills tired eyes in "Nau Do Gyarah", a mathematical tale of love.

A. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

What is this ten per cent cut, Babs?

It is the old Gandhian humbug of denying cow's milk and drinking goat's milk.

J. U. NATHAN (Madras)

What is meant by clean hydrogen bomb?

There won't be any corpses to collect. They will be automatically mashed to manure the soil.

H. L. SETHI (New Delhi)

Why is Nasser anti-American?

Nasser is only pro-Egyptian. But Americans are anti-world and make it very difficult for anyone to become pro-American.

Has prohibition proved a great success in Bombay?

Yes, I can now get a bottle of liquor delivered at home in three minutes. Previously it took me three hours to get one. And on public holidays I couldn't get even an empty bottle to smell.

Zero plus zero?

DANCING

WILL NO LONGER BE AWKWARD OR CLUMSY IF YOU TAKE LESSONS

FROM:—

J. J. RODRIGUES

School of Dancing,

46, Forbes St., Fort,
(Opp. Army & Navy Bldg.).

That is the mathematics of our Five-Year Plan.

Dr. Katju says, "There are less dacoity cases now in Madhya Pradesh".

Congressmen seem to have bribed the newsreporters. That is the cheapest way of eradicating crime.

Do you look very handsome in your mirror?

A face that has been burnt with Govment persecution cannot look very handsome. I now use the faded mirror of a hunted man.

Will you chase 'apsaras' in heaven?

I'll be too tired to chase. I am therefore thinking of dying a Muslim so that I automatically get my quota.

B. L. N. GANDHI (Madras)

Morarji said that democracy needs newspapers?

Yes, to cover its filth.

A. GOVINDAN KUTTY (Johore)

What is this Congress Reform Committee?

That Committee will close one door of the Augean Stables and open another. The animals don't change.

CLOSE IT QUICKLY YOU FOOL AND OPEN ANOTHER
CLEAN THE GUTTER PANDITJI, DON'T MERELY CHANGE THE LIDS
WHAT IS THIS SMELL I AM GETTING?
CONGRESS

HARIRAM JUGAT (Bombay)

They say you hate money?

A man doesn't dedicate eighteen hours a day to his hatred.

Do you have any soft corner for a Sindhi girl in your heart?

My corner becomes soft only when I see the girl—not the label.

By the way what is our nation's vulgar luxury?

Ashoka Hotel!

What is Gandhism?

That is the incense crooks burn at the altar of power. Its smoke brings tears from our eyes.

I dreamt that you had gone to the Himalayas?

Not yet! I have still to finish a score of income tax cases.

One widow has started loving me. What should I do?

Save your wife from becoming another widow.

M. A. KRISHNAMURTHY (Howrah)

Do the Americans beat their wives?

Beating a wife is one-way traffic. You find it in India. In America they have all-in wrestling.

I AM GOING TO DIVORCE YOU DANNY
DON'T DIVORCE HIM, MUMMY, WE'LL LOSE THE FUN.
HIT HER ON THE TUMMY, DADDY AND THROW HER DOWN. SHE HAS BEEN ON THE TOP TOO LONG. IT IS GETTING BORING
YOU WON'T FIND ANOTHER SO EASY TO PUT ON THE MAT MY DEAR
EH, GIVE US SOME ACTION. I AM FEELING SLEEPY

But for Nehru what would have happened to the Muslims?

The Muslims have been in India for 1200 years and the only thing that happened to them is multiplication.

B. B. LALL (Jullundur)

My mind turns trifles into nightmares. A small worry or fear takes ghastly shapes. Any way of relief?

Keep a daily diary and write down your fears. Then every day read your yesterday's fears. Having done so take a mirror and look at a fool.

Explain faith in God.

It is a lamp that is lit inside but its light fills the world outside.

R. SRINIVASAN (Calcutta)

Is it still necessary for Nehru to attend the Commonwealth Conference at London?

Yes, Indira's family album must have new photographs.

Why are people crazy to read Baburao Patel's answers in "filmindia"?

I lend a tongue to their dumb thoughts.

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

Does Iris smoke?

How else can she prove that her heart is burning?

YOUR HEART IS IN FLAMES, IRIS. SHALL I CALL A FIRE-BRIGADE?
HE IS GETTING OLD, IRIS. HE HAS GOT THE TALKING HABIT FROM NEHRU. HE NEVER USED TO WASTE TIME BEFORE
NOT THE BIG HOSE, BABS, JUST GIVE ME A LITTLE GIN AND FRIED CHICKEN FROM THE SATCHEL. YOU TALK LOVE TOO LONG AND BURN MY INSIDES

SHABAIR F. (Calcutta)

Where will you end?

I won't eat the dust like you. Even my corpse will light a fire and disperse darkness for two hours.

K. V. RAMACHANDRAN (Kozhikode)

When do you propose to visit Malabar? You know, our girls are mad after you!

Mad girls? Give me ten years more. No one likes to rush to his suicide.

A. RAMI REDDY (Guntakal)

"Many first plan targets exceeded", runs a news item!

Did you have to pay one anna less for your daily dole of rice?

What is the first stage towards wisdom?

Acceptance of ignorance! One man in a hundred thousand, probably, reaches this stage, and that too at the tail end of his life.

Intelligent and hard work is not paying its dividends these days, Mr. Patel?

Dividends be damned! I am not even getting loans on it.

J. BHASKARA RAO (Kurnool)

Why do we call a nurse a sister?

Because we have to pay her fees for affectionate attention.

N. K. MALHOTRA (Delhi)

No one is happy in the Congress raj. Can you give a reason?

You are one. There are 360 million more.

S. SUNTHERALINGAM (Nawalapitiya)

Is it true that Dilip Kumar behaves very badly after getting drunk?

I have not yet seen Dilip Kumar drunk. Adam's ale is known to be a harmless drink.

In what way can we envy the blind man?

He doesn't have to see our ugly Congress ministers with their uglier designs.

MRS. VAGAL CHHAYA (Bombay)

What does the average Bombay man feel nowadays about Morarji Desai?

Morarji is forgotten. He is now only a bad dream of the past.

M. S. PARDESI (Bombay)

Is there any homoeopathic cure for diabetes?

Diabetes is considered to be incurable but it can be effectively controlled by homoeopathic medicines. Consult a homoeopathic physician to diagnose your exact trouble. Till then you can take a dose of Uranium Nitricum Ix, four times a day, and cut off sugar and starch from your food.

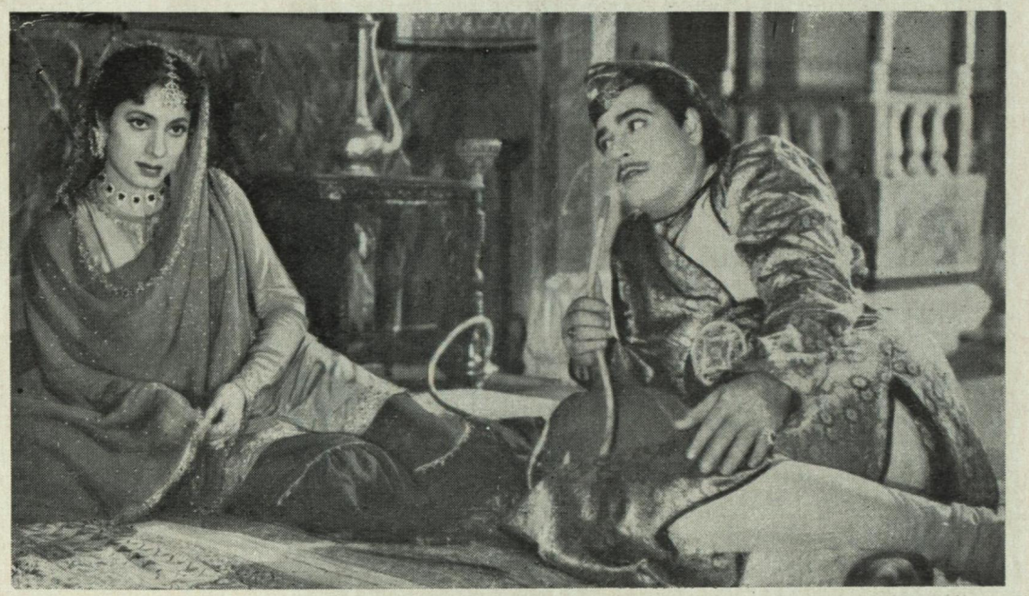
B. SUBBA RAO (Bombay)

I am sure you will end by supporting Nehru?

I do support Nehru, otherwise I wouldn't be after him to improve things.

B. C. CUS (Mysore)

Who is your choice after Nehru?



The Muslim romance begins politely but often ends roughly. Jayashree is playing a Begum with Ajit as her Nawab in "Mehndi", a bridal tale of love directed by S. M. Yusuf for Pushpa Pictures.

Who cares for our choice? We shall always get a man we don't want.

Criticize your wife?

A blind woman who saw virtue in an old sinner.

RAM L. NAKRA (Jullundur)

Imagine Marilyn Monroe discarding her clothes one by one in public at Chowpatty?

Even the statues of Vithalbhai Patel and Lokmanya Tilak will start growling at each other.

HAI ! WHAT ARE THESE OLD GUYS DOING HERE ?
VITTHAL-BHAI, USE YOUR BEARD AT LEAST TO HIDE YOUR EXCITEMENT!
DON'T BE JEALOUS, TILAK - THAT IS MONROE, THE CALENDAR WE MISSED. YOU CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE THE THRILL - THOSE MOUSTACHES OF YOURS DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IS A DROP OF LIQUOR. I WOULD HAVE USED THEM FOR FILTERING WHISKEY

How will history remember Maulana Azad?

Is he also going to dot our history—the man who came to dinner?

Pakistani papers always cry, "Indian Muslims are being crushed"?

They must have heard Kardar shouting about our Income Tax Department.

SAILENDRA PRASAD (Ranchi)

Please define a crook?

Take your own pick from some of our Congress ministers. You can have his photo with a biography.

ARVIND KARTIK (Lucknow)

I am told that Krishna Menon is a bachelor still?

I have also heard that rumour.

GOPAL DAS KOTHARI (Calcutta)

Is it right that Nehru likes to live in a small house?

Yes, he caught the infection of modesty from the Chief Minister of Kerala.

M. MOHAN (Unnao)

You look like a perfect gentleman. What is bad in you, sir?

The perfection you see. It is not liked.

S. PRAKASH (Jullundur)

Does Madhubala still see Dilip in her dreams?

She doesn't need a dream. She meets him in the studio almost every day.

Do you love to be called a saint?

One more wrong name wouldn't hurt me much.

UMA SAKSENA (New Delhi)

Boredom of a routine life hangs heavily on me. Any remedy?

PRIZE WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER

1st Prize to Ram L. Nakra (Jullundur); 2nd Prize to Raj A. Chhugani (Poona); 3rd Prize to K. A. K. Ayyangar (Vellore); 4th Prize to S. Manohar (Patiala) and 10 Consolation Prizes to the following:—Mrs. Vagal Chhaya (Bombay); Miss Manasvita (Ahmedabad); Narendra Mehta (Delhi); Devi Chand (Kota); Kamal Kishore (Ahmedabad); S. K. Vasudeva (Hoshiarpur); S. Naidu (Hyderabad); Sunder Bhojwani (Gandhidham); Miss Rani Ahluwalia (Mhow) and P. N. Sukul (Lucknow). Money orders are being sent to all the prize winners.

Learn homoeopathy and start treating poor people around you. It is at once a humane and exciting way of occupying time. You will earn blessings which you never got before.

What do you expect after this life—heaven or hell?

I'll go straight to heaven, Uma. At least one Congressman must go there to attend on Gandhiji.

K. B. LALL (Indore)

Your editorials smell too much of patriotism?

Do you want them to smell of Congress politics?

Y. A. DAWOODI (Malaya)

Islam in danger! Do you think it is a mere joke?

No! Communism will destroy the brotherhood of Islam. The process has begun in the Middle East.

B. R. SEHGAL (Amla)

I am rich enough to marry?

Then go ahead and gamble. A honey needs money these days.

B. L. N. GANDHI (Madras)

Women are proud that while men have switched on to the western clothes women still cling to the traditional sari?

The reason is common in both cases—rickety legs. All over the world people dress to hide their defects.

B. SANTOSH (Penang)

Are there also private taxis in Bombay?

Every licensed institution has a private shadow.

MRS. KAPIL (Ahmedabad)

Is Christianity in danger in Bharat?

In Bharat nothing is in danger except Bharat.

S. S. MAHAJANI (Bombay)

Suraiya said in the court that "filmindia" is not a much-reputed magazine?

That is right! In her locality where the dead body of a murdered man is found at the foot of the stairs, "filmindia" is not much known. But the magazine is reported to have been seen on the Prime Minister's table.

MISS RANI AHLUWALIA (Mhow)

What is the difference between Nargis and Nutan?

Both are attractive flowers—the first one in a flower pot, the other still on the plant.

JAWAHIR S. ASHER (Bombay)

When shall we produce pictures which can be exported?

Our pictures have been already exported for years but they go to countries more primitive than India. One of these countries even conferred a doctorate on one of our actors.

P. N. SUKUL (Lucknow)

They say you do not really try to assess the merits of persons like Menon, Maulana and Morarji?

I do. Menon means jeep scandal, Maulana means Moghul education and Morarji means prohibition. Do you know anything more about these fellows?

T. C. THAKER (Ahmedabad)

Will you welcome me at 'Girnar' if I come with a dozen bottles of whiskey?

You must get Morarji's certificate that the whiskey is genuine. I don't like illicit stuff.

Does Morarjibhai admire you?

Sometimes, when I criticize Nehru.

Though a Brahmin, I am very fond of 'murghi' but at the cost of others?

Well, that "murghi" is going to be very useful when Pakistanis bomb Ahmedabad. It will give you more courage than our Defence Minister will.

How is democracy being nurtured in our country?

In the British days we were merely slaves, now we are treated like criminals.

Do you wear a diamond ring?

The one my wife had we sold to pay the legal costs of our income-tax cases. Now we have only a memory of the diamond, not the diamond.

How I wish I had been a son of Morarjibhai?

You are too late. Morarjibhai has officially been a celibate for 30 years.

J. R. PATIL (Bombay)

All prices have gone up. What should we do?

Shout, scream and ask your government 'Why'? If a crore of people do that the prices will come down.

What is ex-actress Suraiya doing these days?

She is busy establishing her character in courts.

A. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

Balu Keskar for another five years! Is it not horrible, Babs?

Misfortunes never come alone.

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The following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 100|-; 2nd Prize: Rs. 50|-; 3rd Prize: Rs. 30|-; 4th Prize: Rs. 20|- and 10 Consolation Prizes of Rs. 10|- each.

A reader can ask as many questions as he likes but those letters which bear the Priority Coupon will be answered first. A reader gets three coupons free per copy and he has therefore the chance to catch the bus thrice every month. Questions should be neatly written, or typed if possible, with some blank space left between two questions. It is in this blank space that the editor writes his replies. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes, the editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained about the distribution of the prizes.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "Filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order.

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The past often provokes a thought for the future and makes the present miserable. Jayashree's sad and thoughtful eyes contain the tragic eloquence of the past and bring new pathos to the screen in "Mehndi", a thrilling romance, produced by Pushpa Pictures.

This section is the monopoly of "JUDAS" and he writes what he likes and about things which he likes. The views expressed here are not necessarily ours, but they carry weight because they are written by a man who knows his job.

THE JUDAS'S OF INCOME TAX

The Indian Income Tax Act is perhaps the most complicated instrument ever devised by man to bleed man. It is designed to confuse the man first and then in his confusion relieve him of his hard-earned money. The Act is a confidence trick with the dust of law thrown into the eyes of the victim to blind him and make him feel that he has been robbed lawfully.

That the Act is very complicated is proved by the very fact that a provision is made at seven different stages to interpret its theme and mischief. These stages are the Income Tax Officer, the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner, the Commissioner, the Appellate Assistant Commissioner, the Appellate Tribunal, the High Court and the Supreme Court. The assessee—usually a layman, not conversant with the law and its fallacies and rigidities—has often to go up this corkscrew spiral labouring under the most heartrending distress to get a glimpse of justice in the heavenly clouds of the Supreme Court. His legal cost to reach this heavenly height is never less than Rs. 20,000|- and the time he needs to fly to that heavenly altitude is never less than three years. And his grievance of injustice may hardly be worth Rs. 1,000|- or even less if the man is public-spirited enough to fight to the last. As the Government never pays the costs of income tax litigation, an assessee often pays Rs. 20,000|- in legal costs to get a just relief of Rs. 1,000|-.

Such a cumbersome and complicated Act naturally requires an army of professional interpreters to "help" the assessees.

Section 61 of the Indian Income Tax Act describes these visible helpers as "authorized representatives" of the assessee and classifies them into four categories: (i) a regular employee of the assessee (ii) a lawyer, meaning a barrister, a solicitor or an advocate (iii) an accountant meaning an auditor or a chartered accountant and (iv) an income-tax practitioner, meaning a person having certain approved educational qualifications, licensed and tolerated by the Income Tax Department.

If any of these is found guilty of professional misconduct by the Commissioner of Income Tax, he is straightaway disqualified, of course after giving him the usual "reasonable" opportunity of being heard.

In the case of the lawyer or the registered accountant, the matter of misconduct is referred to the authority empowered to take disciplinary action against members of the profession to which he belongs. But in the case of the regular employee (i) or the income-tax practitioner (iv), the Commissioner of Income Tax himself tolls the death-knell. As an employee in category (i) can be replaced by another, the Commisioner's decision in his case is infructuous, but in the case of the income-tax practitioners, the Commissioner's frown often decides the fate of these people.

As matters stand today, very few assessees can afford the luxury of a lawyer—the lawyer being an expensive and annoying item of expenditure—many lawyers often demanding more fees than an assessee's tax debt to the Government.

The responsibility of advocating the assessee's case therefore largely falls upon the shoulders of either the accountants (iii) or the professional income-tax practitioners (iv)—both without any knowledge of general law or equity and both either partly or absolutely at the mercy of the Commissioner. Of these two classes, the accountant can be said to be slightly more independent but the so-called income-tax practitioner is perfectly slavish to the smile of the Commissioner—the Commissioner's mood being the beginning and the end of his bread.

We shall not dwell upon the inefficiencies and the importunities of our professional lawyers. They have a reputation as old as time, well nursed by numerous members of their own profession. No one has defamed a lawyer yet, except himself. This tribe would have been slaughtered long ago had people not come across some really brilliant and conscientious lawyers whose honest approach to their work earned for them the eternal gratitude of their clients. But such types are very rare. Their greatness, however, gives a licence to a large number of the tribe to turn law into a pasture of unscrupulous profit.

In income-tax cases the professional lawyer is rarely employed in the early stage before the Income Tax Officer where actually the seeds of an assessee's distress are first sown. Lawyers are called on the scene at the Appellate stage, after the case has been spoiled by wrong initial sowings.

Let us therefore forget the lawyers and concentrate on the species known as the Income Tax Practitioners who handle 90% of the income-tax cases at almost all levels.

The Act sets out three types of qualifications for Income Tax Practitioners:

(a) Any person, who was not an employee or a relative of an assessee, and who appeared before an Income Tax authority on behalf of an assessee before 1st April 1938 in taxable territories or before 1st April 1949 in merged territories or before 1st April 1950 in any of the Part B State—except, of course, Jammu and Kashmir, which is a foreign country with a separate flag, a separate constitution, a separate Prime Minister and a

The brides are blessed. They step into new and strange life with hope and innocence. But sometimes destiny keeps a villain waiting for them and then life becomes a vale of tears. Chitra brings new innocence to the screen in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a social tale produced by Mehtab Films.

separate national anthem. This time-qualified pickle need out have any special qualifications in law or accounts. He is just any person with whiskers of time grown on him.

(b) Any person who has passed "any" accountancy examination "recognised" in this behalf by the Central Board of Revenue. This is a figure-man who need not have any knowledge of law. He usually learns law over the corpses of the assessees.

(c) Any person who has acquired such educational qualifications as the Central Board of Revenue may prescribe for this purpose. This prescription-man need not know both—law and accounts. Section 61(2) (iv) (c) thus provides a prescription for the favourites of the Central Board of Revenue.

We thus find thousands of professional people employed under these three categories of Income Tax Practitioners. They are all slavishly dependent on the goodwill of the Commissioner of Income Tax, who can charge them with "misconduct", give them a "reasonable" opportunity of being heard and disqualify them without assigning any reasons at his sweet will.

The bread of these Income Tax Practitioners is thus completely dependent on the frowns and smiles of the Commissioner. This slavish existence has turned almost all of these Income Tax practitioners into virtual revenue agents of the Income Tax Department and it is no wonder that assessees, in spite of having good fighting cases, are constantly advised and frightened by these practitioners to compromise with the Department and pay as much tax as can be paid by the assessees.

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Shyama always creates situations which keep men guessing. See how she has got Nazir Hussein and Balraj Sahni wondering in "Mai Baap", a romantic tale produced and directed by M. Sadiq.

These Income Tax practitioners, many of whom know neither income tax law nor accounts, play many roles to keep themselves going. It is therefore not unusual to find an income tax practitioner advising his client to pay Rs. 5,000|- to an Income Tax Officer to silence him and settle the tax demand at 50%. The practitioner thus acts as a goodwill broker between the assessee and the Income Tax Officer, who also has a car, a wife, a few children and many wants—all of which cannot be satisfied within five or six hundred rupees which he gets every month as salary.

Besides, in such deals, the practitioner also gets a cut on the illicit earnings of the Income Tax Officer. The practitioner needs the money badly too because he charges the assessee only a small annual fee ranging from Rs. 100|- to Rs. 500|- according to the importance of the case. We know an instance of an income-tax practitioner charging an annual fee of Rs. 200|- only in the case of a film star paying as much as Rs. 40,000|- income-tax annually. We also know the rest of the story, which should be a common tale with such ridiculous recompense paid for a case involving the tax collection of Rs. 40,000|-. It is therefore not surprising that the average Income Tax practitioner should seek to supplement his income by sharp practices, seeing that his legitimate fee is very poor, and completely disproportionate to the complicated work of income-tax, involving an intelligent interpretation of the law and requiring much time for the protracted investigations. That he finds this extra income by filling the ever-yawning pockets of some of the Income Tax Officers is a scandal known also to the Department.

The Income Tax practitioner is thus an insurance agent—not only of the Department but also of several Income Tax Officers. He guarantees a certain amount of annual revenue to both and while doing so earns the Commissioner's smile and the Income Tax Officers' gratitude—not to forget his own supplementary income. It is therefore no wonder that the Department encourages this class of representatives and to do so it has arrogated to itself arbitrary powers of appointing any person—with or without specific qualifications. It is this tribe of Income Tax practitioners that gets for the Income Tax Department most of its revenue at the cost of the innocent and frightened assessees. The Income Tax practitioner is thus the Department's Trojan horse planted in the assessee's yard.

With good, old Lalita Pawar in temper Kishore Kumar is facing an exciting situation in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a social theme produced by Mehtab Films.

This dirty middle-man game has been going on in the Income Tax Department for several decades and assessees must have paid crores and crores of rupees as unjust dues because by and large the assessees have not yet realized the subtle double-faced role which the average Income Tax practitioner plays in all income-tax cases.

It is only once in a blue moon when this middle-man stumbles over an honest Income Tax Officer that the dirty game becomes difficult to play. But then the game is lifted to the upper level of the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner and the honest Officer is soon transferred to a distant district in Madhya Pradesh where the only education his little children can get is the news of the dacoities committed by Lakhan Singh or the ears and noses cut by Gubbar Singh.

With such a type of Income Tax practitioners and officers found in majority, the assessees are bound to lose their cases at the Appellate stages provided by law. For, the man, whom the assessee trusts first as his own representative, is often the man who first sows the seed of the assessee's subsequent misfortune and distress. Because, that man is an agent of the Income Tax Department fed and nursed on the smile and approval of the Commissioner of Income Tax.

The moral of this note, therefore, is:

1. Don't trust your income-tax consultant unless you find in him courage, character, honesty and a competent knowledge of law.

2. Study the Income Tax Act yourself and know your rights under the law. An assessee can do this easily by reading the old issues of "filmindia" in which the Act has been criticised section by section.

3. Employ a competent lawyer or solicitor for every case, however small, right from the stage of filling the first returns.

4. Don't neglect tax proceedings at the Income Tax Officer's stage because, there, the seeds of future distress are sown.

5. Don't trust the Income Tax Officer in your personal appearances before him. He often makes wrong entries in his Order Sheet. Remember, he is given a quota of 125 cases a month and a certain amount of tax collection annually. His promotion is made dependent on this. His job is to fleece you. It is his duty to act always in the interests of revenue—more and more revenue. It is your duty to foil his attempt to safeguard your interest. Every explanation or submission, therefore, should be put on paper, asking the Officer again and again, in writing, if he is satisfied with the explanations submitted and warning him not to complete the assessment till you have been given every opportunity to explain.

6. Watch your Income-tax consultant all the time. Watch his friends and relations with the Department. Think over his advice ten times before you agree to act once. He often uses fear to obtain an assessee's submission. Remember, however good the man, he is himself afraid of losing his bread which depends on the smile of the Commissioner. The average Income Tax practitioner is a Judas at your dining table. He eats your food but serves another master.

7. And above all, don't be scared of the Income Tax Department. Though the Income Tax Officer acts under a lawless law, it is still a law which binds him as much as it does the assessee. The Income Tax Officer cannot step outside the law to get at the throat of an assessee. Don't be in a hurry to pay the tax if you feel the imposition is unjust. Fight the Department all the way and make it earn its rupee the hard way—the same way as you earned it.

We do not think that all our criticism is going to improve the Income Tax Department and make it more fair, just and human in its business of tax-collection—not, at least, as long as our Finance Minister describes tax as blood of the citizen and advises Income Tax Officers to be doctors and draw blood from patients without being rude or painful. But we can certainly

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educate the taxpayers in realizing their inherent rights and offer as much resistance as they can to unjust and arbitrary taxation.

MONUMENT FOR OUR PRIZE PIGEON

Like the Moghul emperors who built their mausoleums during their life-time, Nehru has also built his own monument which a grateful nation is expected to use for housing the ashes of our great leader when fate decides that he should leave us behind in tears. Nehru's monument is called the Asoka Hotel in New Delhi.

This is a beautiful seven-storied edifice containing 333 air-conditioned rooms, royal lounges, spacious dining rooms and a swimming pool overlooking a sprawling garden. This grand monument, born in the snap impulse of our great leader, cost the nation of 360-million people—many of whom are now living on roots and barks of trees—just a little less than three crores of rupees so far. When the final bills come in, the cost will go a little over three crores of rupees.

This grand monument—the most ambitious building project in New Delhi since freedom—was probably temporarily baptized as the Asoka Hotel to accommodate UNESCO delegates who came to India last November as Nehru's personal guests. If what some of Nehru's close friends, like Tyagi, Maulana, Morarji and others, think is to be believed, the whole building is ultimately to be turned into a Buddhist university and the 333 air-conditioned rooms would be used as 'viharas' by future

Shammi Kapoor and Ragini make an excellent love team in "Mujrim", an exciting story of love produced by Eagle Films.

Buddhist scholars. The spacious lounge is planned to be the 'stupa'—the great Assembly Hall—at the end of which it is planned to build the Nehru temple with his ashes in a golden urn. The institution will be called the International Buddhist University, Nehru, they say, having rejected the word 'temple' which unnecessarily reminds him of stupid and prostrate Hinduism.

From all this it is presumed that in his last moments, Nehru will also become a Buddhist, like Dr. Ambedkar, adding the remaining millions of Hindus to Buddhism and thereby forging a common religious bond with China, our ancient "bhai-bhai" relative.

All this may sound fantastic to us common mortals today but we must say here that the Asoka Hotel is a well and subtly-planned project and we must congratulate Nehru on his artistic and spiritual farsightedness in constructing a grand building for such a glorious purpose ultimately. We must also admire his practical international outlook in using the building as a hotel in the meantime and giving it a commoner's touch till such time as the great Nehru decides to be the great Buddha.

Though Mahavir Tyagi, the little bald buddy who kisses Nehru's face so often, knew all this, he still asked a few naughty questions in Lok Sabha to expose the I.Q. of his old friend A. K. Chanda, the Deputy Minister for Housing. It seems that since his return from Russia with his family circus, Chanda has been talking what Tyagi often describes as "intellectual nonsense" and Tyagi decided to expose Chanda's recently acquired pseudo-intellectualism by showing to the nation how idiotic Chanda could be even in answering a simple question.

Mahavir Tyagi therefore asked in the Lok Sabha a simple question: "What is the average loss per day suffered by the Asoka Hotel?" As expected by Tyagi, A. K. Chanda gave the idiotic reply: "I am surprised that an ex-Finance Minister should ask such a question. Till the balance sheet is ready at the end of the year, it is impossible to calculate anything".

This "intelligent" answer made Tyagi wink in amusement. He thought that if an annual budget of 400 and odd crores of rupees can be planned from year to year in advance and people bled in taxes accurately, why couldn't a minister tell him what was lost in a day at the Asoka Hotel? After all Tyagi was only asking for a patient's report during his illness. But Chanda was asking him to wait for the post-mortem report. Tyagi, therefore, angrily insisted that he had every right to know how much loss was being incurred daily in running this "luxurious hotel"?

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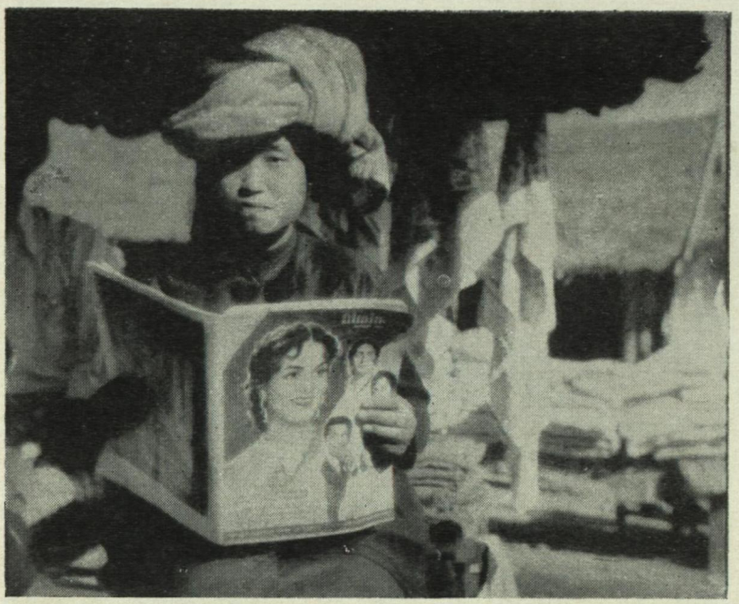

Reader Genghis Khan from Rangoon sends us this interesting photograph of a Taung Thu Pao damsel, who also enjoys reading "Filmindia" in some distant corner of Burma.

It was Nehru, the kindly Buddha of the future, who saved the awkward situation by admitting that though the hotel was running at a considerable loss at the moment, it would prove a profitable venture "if given time to settle down". That sounded like a Buddhist blessing.

Four days later, A. K. Chanda brought out the figures of running the future International Buddhist University as a boarding and lodging hotel in the present. According to Chanda, the running expenses of the Asoka Hotel come to about Rs. 23 lakhs a year. An additional Rs. 22 lakhs per year are required for depreciation, interest on loans, house-tax and payments due on the lease-hold land. The Asoka Hotel thus costs the nation Rs. 45 lakhs of rupees a year, that is a net loss of about Rs. 12,303 per day—not at all much for a building that is destined to be the mausoleum of a new Buddha.

But many close friends of Nehru feel that we could easily save Rs. 450 lakhs in the next ten years—money that would be lost in feeding the bearers, the butlers, the managers and the mehtars—if we stopped running the place as a hotel and straightaway dedicated it as a future monument to Nehru and put the yellow-robed Bhikkus in the 333 air-conditioned rooms and began the sonorous chant of "Buddham Sharanam Gachchami, Dhammam Sharanam Gachchami, Sangham Sharanam Gachchami".

There is some practical intelligence in this suggestion seeing that we do want history to call Nehru another Asoka and also another Buddha if the 'Bhai-Bhai' Chinamen don't object. After all what has Nehru not done for peace and Panchshila during the last ten years? He has taken the risk of flying thousands of miles to distant and unknown lands and people to bring us hundreds of garlands of international flowers and thousands of photographs of odd-looking people from various lands. He has delivered thousands of lectures and though the international idiots never understood them fully—most of them being in the Pali sentiment of Buddhism—yet Nehru never had as much as even a sore throat once, leave alone aphonia. Nehru saw new temples in the mortar-and-cement dams of Nangal and Damodar Valley and discovered new incense in the fertilizer of Sindri. And in the corrupt engineers and contractors of these temples he saw new gods for the people. It was Nehru, who took the name of Bharat, that is India, to various lands through his sister and favourite disciples chanting "Nehruam Sharanam Gachchami" "Gandhiam Sharanam Gachchami" to the rhythm of neo-Buddhism which turned even the whistle of Pakistan's border-bullets into a requiem mass of thousands of Indians.

Nehru did a thousand things in ten years which turned hawks of history into pigeons of peace—a feat which even Asoka, the Great, failed to achieve.

If at all any man in our country deserves a monument as big and beautiful as the Asoka Hotel, Nehru is the only man who deserves it. Let us not therefore pollute it today with the stink of roasted ham and beef but burn in it Sindri fertilizer as incense to the establishment of neo-Buddhism.

Doing so will also save us Rs. 45 lakhs every year—the blood of blind devotees of Congress democracy.

SOWING THE PICE TO REAP MILLIONS

On August 20, 1957, 1000 newspaper hawkers of Calcutta went on a sudden strike and refused to deliver copies of newspapers to the readers. Many hawkers lit up bonfires of newspaper bundles and danced wildly round the bonfires in right-royal Holi fashion.

This army of social workers, earning probably Rs. 2 per head per day, was angry because the proprietors of newspapers were emulating our Postal Department by making extra profits out of the Naya Paisa racket.

NEHRU'S LOYAL CONGRESSMAN

BERHAMPORE (Murshidabad), August 5: Hazi Abdul Hamid, M.L.A. (Congress), was arrested and later released on a personal bond, following a search by the police of his house at Bhabda, about eight miles from here, yesterday.

The police, headed by Mr. B. K. Bhattacharya, Deputy Superintendent of Police, are reported to have recovered from Mr. Hamid's house some live bombs, explosive materials, two Pakistani flags and receipt books bearing the name of the Dacca Muslim League (Bhabda branch).

Investigation is proceeding.

Taking advantage of the introduction of the Naya Paisa, newspaper proprietors marked their copy of 10 old paisa at 16 Naye Paise or 11 pice and demanded from the hawkers settlement of accounts at 16 Naye Paise per copy. The grievance of the hawkers is that the buyers of the newspapers mostly pay them in the old coin and pay only 10 pice per copy and therefore they cannot pay the extra pice which the newspaper proprietors want, for the simple reason that the buyers have never paid it to them. An extra pice over 10 pice is 10% extra profit. That is money for jam—money which the wealthy owners of the newspapers want to extract from poor newspaper hawkers.

This struggle of poor and honest men to survive in the midst of crushing imposts on food and the ever-rising cost of living brought to our mind a paragraph which Baburao Patel wrote in the obituary article about his father. Baburao said:

"Father had no money to buy the books. Law books were very expensive in those days. So father went out selling newspapers early morning and mother took in some flour-grinding work in the afternoon. This gave the little family another sixty rupees a month. With this father bought some law books and paid Rs. 30 per month to a nearby lawyer for a little guidance."

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EXPERT LADIES TO TRAIN LADIES

Baburao Patel's father became a great lawyer and after a glorious career at the bar left behind, at the age of 84, an estate of several lakhs of rupees—if money alone is to be the yard-stick of a man's success in life. Mr. S. S. Vasan, one of India's greatest film producers and the editor and proprietor of "Ananda Vikatan"—South India's most popular weekly, also began life as a newspaper seller once.

How many potential lawyers, doctors, engineers, film magnates, etc., must be in those 1000 newspaper hawkers who are up in protest against the blood-sucking tendencies of the newspaper proprietors? The newspaper boy, who delivers the daily papers at our home, is a Maratha lad of twelve. He is up in the morning at 4.30 A.M. and back home at 8.30 A.M. During four hours, he delivers over 200 copies of newspapers and gets only a salary of Rs. 30 per month from the newspaper agent. Out of these thirty rupees he pays Rs. 15 to his father for food and spends the rest on his education and clothes. His father and mother—both mill-workers—have a family of five children, two of whom sell newspapers and educate themselves—the other three being little daughters stay at home to guard their pots and pans which no one wants even to rob. Dhondu, our newspaper boy, has dreams of becoming a doctor because his grandmother died three years ago without getting medical aid and because his father has mortgaged the few family ornaments they had with the next-door Marwari to pay his mother's maternity expenses. Dhondu's dream is a long way off but the desire is burning inside him today even as it did in the case of Baburao's father when he went out hawking newspapers every morning to be able to buy some law books and become a lawyer.

In those 1000 angry hawkers of Calcutta there must be over 500 at least—Calcutta being a city of opportunities and

Dev Anand, one of our top stars, has now developed an attractive screen personality and the University results of college girls are showing poor percentages. He gives one more thrilling performance in "Solva Saal", a love tale directed by Raj Khosla for Chandra Films.

Bengalis being essentially a people of culture and education—who desire to give themselves education and opportunity to improve their lives by earning a little income on their own and paying their way.

To extract from such people one pice more—a pice which they have not earned—and add 10% easy money to the huge profits which newspaper proprietors make these days is, to say the least, a caddish and anti-social act. It is such callous acts on the part of our rich and fortunate people that are driving our people towards revolt and Communism. If those who are fortunate enough to possess wealth would only spare a sympathetic thought for those who are unfortunate and not deprive the poor of their little recompense for honest labour, our Utopian dream of a Welfare State would be easier of achievement.

It is a crying shame that of all people, newspaper proprietors, who are supposed to champion all the lost causes of the world, should stoop to exploit their own poor newspaper hawkers and seek from them an illegitimate bonus of 10% on their own capital investment.

As the old coin disappears from circulation in the course of time, the quarrel over the difference in exchange will also disappear but in the meantime should rich and fortunate newspaper magnates like Tushar Kanti Ghosh and others exhibit an unholy greed in depriving the toiling newspaper hawker of his hard-earned one pice?

Let these rich men answer this question keeping an eye on Kerala. For, the next province to come under the blood-sodden boot of Communism will be Bengal. The pice that is denied today will take millions away one day.

CALLING PANDIT KUNZRU!

In May 1955, Mahendra Nath, a sweet-tongued go-getter from New Delhi, registered The Children's Film Society under the Registration of Societies Act with, of course, himself as the General Secretary, Pandit Kunzru as the President, the late B. G. Kher as the Vice-President and a dozen well-known people as Members of the Executive Council.

Mahendra Nath, who dozes during discussions after a good lunch—good food being the dominating theme of his existence, woke up with a start in June 1955 when he learnt that Pandit

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The best costume for chasing girls is that of an Arab. Every sex-mad Mullah looks a Sheikh in that costume. Kishore Kumar has got Minoo Mumtaz wondering in "Aasha", a thrilling tale of love told by M. V. Raman.

Nehru, our beloved Prime Minister, was garlanded by thousands of children in Soviet Russia.

By December 1955, when the two Communist cherubs—Bulganin and Khrushchev—visited India and were in turn paid back in the children's coin, Mahendra Nath burst out into volcanic activity which threatened the country with a spate of children's films, specially produced for children according to the outgrown adult notions of Mahendra Nath.

Mahendra Nath himself declares his intention in the Constitution of the Society as follows: "If you want to make the young people get some ideas of human rights, the need for truthfulness, for integrity, it is not by asking them to be truthful or to love your neighbour. But it is by presenting to them concrete examples of truthfulness and integrity by means of the films themselves. That is what this Society attempts to do".

We won't criticize Mahendra Nath's clumsy English because it frames a lofty intention but let us see what he has been doing about the Children's Film Society since May 1955.

Long before Mahendra Nath could do anything substantial in the field of children's films, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, under whose aegis the Children's Film Society operates, pompously claimed in its 1955-56 report as follows: "The lack of privately produced films suitable for exhibition to children is being made up by the **output** of the Children's Film Society who have completed the adaptation of two Indian feature films for this special purpose and have also embarked on the production of two original features for children".

Now, the word "output" used by the Ministry need not put a staggering strain on the imagination of the reader and make him think of dozens of films specially made for our children. In India our Government uses words like "Welfare", "Planning", "Democracy", "Coexistence", "Food", "Justice", etc., without ever intending to lend the words their true import. "Output" is one such high-sounding word which describes new targets reached in our Five-Year Plans without ever reaching them. It is a very useful word which scares people, who are usually not mathematical by nature, and stops them from checking on the actual results.

"The adaptation of two Indian feature films" to which the Ministry refers constituted of "Bal Ramayana" and "Ram Shastri", two old films originally produced by Prakash Pictures and Prabhat Films respectively, cut down to a smaller length and renamed by Mahendra Nath. This work involved no original talent nor even much enterprise to be claimed as any achievement by the Ministry. The original pictures were already fifteen years old when Mahendra Nath came around persuading their producers to hand them over to the Children's Film Society. Mahendra Nath, of course, needed some money to put them into the children's pigeon-hole for the future. We are never short of money for such schemes where the labour and intelligence of others can be safely and quickly claimed as our own.

As regards the "two original features" to which the Ministry refers, we must admit that Mahendra Nath, who has been both the father and the child of the Children's Society so far, has produced two pictures known as "Char Dost" and "Jaldeep" in two years.

The first one was produced in a Calcutta studio and gave Mahendra Nath a chance to see Calcutta and fly to and from that city at least fifteen times. The second one was produced in Bombay and gave Mahendra Nath an opportunity to establish his office in the city, engage girl secretaries, entertain the girl artiste working in the film at expensive restaurants and fly between Bombay and Delhi at least two dozen times, not counting the train journeys. We do not know what Mahendra Nath actually did in Calcutta in the social field but what he did in Bombay, we saw it happen before our eyes. Well, every one, who has something to do with public funds, does these things

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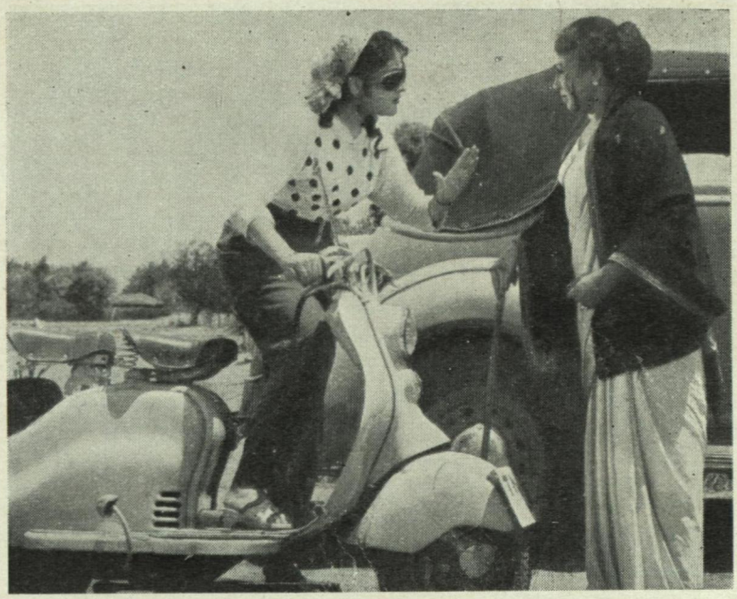
these days and we see no reason why Mahendra Nath should be different.

But after all this fun of film production, one expects to see the results and evaluate them. We have been told that the two films, "Char Dost" and "Jaldeep", have been produced. But no one has seen these films because in spite of these films being sponsored by the Government they have not been released to the public. Nor have we been ever invited to see them at a private showing—a privilege usually extended to journalists.

"Char Dost", we were once told, was sent all the way to the Edinburgh Festival but the picture seems to have failed to attract any notice. "Jaldeep" was also reported to have been sent to some foreign festival with no effect. Both the pictures have not been released in India and neither children nor adults have seen them. Both the pictures are reported to have cost us over Rs. 2½ lakhs but both are lying in tins while Mahendra Nath is flying all over India again to produce a third one—another gamble of over Rs. 1½ lakhs.

And now Mahendra Nath is concentrating on Madras, attracted probably by the Bharat Natyam belles of the South. The other day, August 1, 1957, Mahendra Nath told an audience of South Indian producers and artistes that a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been allotted to the production of children's films under the second Five-Year Plan and Rs. 4 lakhs had been set aside for the year 1957.

He, of course, said that these funds were not enough for the plans he had in view and appealed to the local producers,



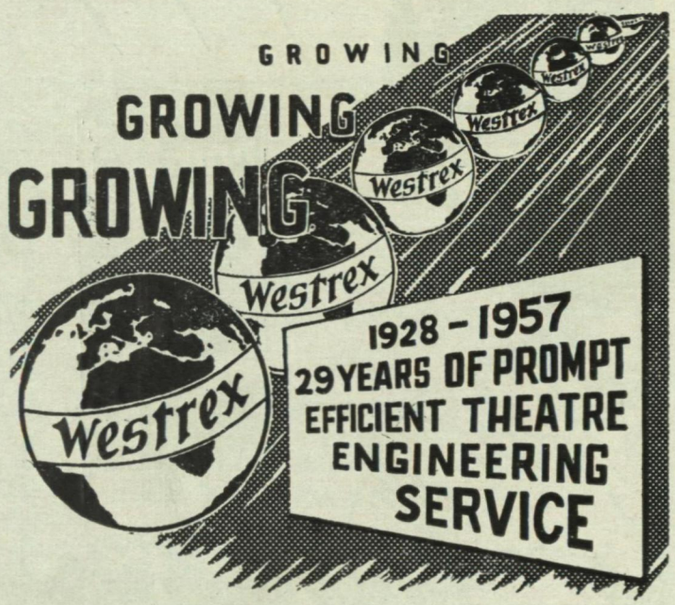
A scooter never had more sex-appeal than when Vyjayantimala chose to ride it. But she seems to have bumped into our old girl, Lalita Pawar, and upset her cylinders in "Aasha", a mighty entertainer produced and directed by M. V. Raman.

technicians, artistes and others to volunteer free cooperation. The South Indians believing that no less a person than Nehru had blessed this children's films project—more so after seeing Indira Gandhi's name as the present Vice-President, promised wholehearted support to Mahendra Nath in his future productions. Where the purple of power is flourished, the South Indians—slaves of their own fears—usually acquiesce quickly. Not one man got up to ask Mahendra Nath to show what he had produced in "Char Dost" and "Jaldeep" and how many people had seen these pictures?

But someone has to do the asking—more so now when we are scraping every naya paisa to make our second Five-Year Plan a success. Nehru is asking us every day to make new sacrifices to build a great nation. The other day 3,00,000 post and telegraph workers decided to prolong their agony of starvation a little longer to save our Five-Year Plan. Our foreign resources have touched the rock-bottom. We are in short a bankrupt nation dreaming of a banker's future. At such a time we have to think of the hard necessities of life and give up all luxuries of culture, all fancy plans and projects and all superfluous activities which consume our resources. The question before us is: Do we need the children's films so badly as to spend over them Rs. 20 lakhs in the next five years—money which we just do not have?

That question can be answered only by evaluating the past record of the Children's Film Society—the work it has done, the money it has spent, the usefulness of the effort and the actual benefit received by the people. We are therefore asking some questions and expect them to be answered with the same "truthfulness and integrity" which Mahendra Nath seeks to instil into our children with the help of his films.

1. What was the total amount of money collected and spent by the Children's Film Society since its inception up to April 1957 —a period of two years?
2. Will the Society publish a balance sheet of expenses during this period showing how much money was spent under different heads?
3. How much were the total emoluments drawn by Mahendra Nath during the period of two years? What were the extra allowances paid to him?
4. What was the amount of the travelling expenses paid to Mahendra Nath during two years? Out of these how much amount was spent on train travel and how much on air travel?



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5. What was the urgency which necessitated Mahendra Nath's travel by air so many times?

6. How much money was spent under the head of "Entertainment Expenses" and through whom?

7. What was the amount spent under the head, "Sundry Production Expenses"? And what type of vouchers were got for the expenses? Who countersigned these vouchers on behalf of the Ministry or the Executive Council?

8. What were the payments made to the studios, directors, technicians, artistes and others for the two pictures produced?

9. How long did the production of each picture last and why?

10. What were the monthly expenses of the office in Bombay opened by Mahendra Nath? What were the salaries per month of the girl-secretaries employed by him? What was the rent of the office? And was the office at all necessary seeing that film studios provide office accommodation and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has a huge office on Peddar Road in Bombay?

11. What were the conveyance expenses incurred by Mahendra Nath during two years? What was the price of the car which Mahendra Nath used during his stay in Bombay?

12. At how many cinemas in India have the four pictures, "Bal Ramayana", "Ram Shastri", "Char Dost" and "Jaldeep", been shown so far? Please give statistics picture by picture.

13. How many children have seen these four pictures in the last two years and in which towns?

14. What have been the commercial returns of these four pictures so far from their exhibition in cinemas?

15. What are the difficulties in the way of the general country-wide release of these pictures, seeing that they are Government-sponsored?

16. Why were "Char Dost" and "Jaldeep" sent overseas for film festivals and what expenses were incurred for doing so?

17. What are the future production plans of the Children's Film Society?

18. What manner of day-to-day audit over expenses is adopted by the Society to save wastage and unnecessary expenditure?

A hundred more questions can be asked about the affairs of the Children's Film Society but we give only a small list for the present and expect the President, Pandit H. N. Kunzru, a man of impeccable character, to answer them within three months in a categorical and straightforward manner. At the end of three months we shall consider ourselves free to draw our own conclusions.

YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE —

THAT when our 300,000 post and telegraph workers threatened to strike recently, Mama Warerkar, our old Marathi dramatist, and two ex-Governors: K. M. Munshi and R. R. Diwakar, offered their voluntary services to work in the post and telegraph offices. That scared Nehru so much that he immediately consented to appoint a Pay Commission to settle the quarrel with our postal workers. By now Nehru knows his soft Congressmen and how they melt when they come in touch with money.

THAT Morarji Desai spent a bad week after the 57th birthday of S. K. Patil, our Man from Malwan. Some one seems to have told him that good, old J. C. Jain gave a grand birthday party to S. K. Patil at a private home in Cuffe Parade and over a hundred elite of the city sang, "He's a jolly good fellow" and danced round a huge birthday cake with glasses of Adam's ale in their hands. Patil, it seems, entertained the guests with quips from the Cabinet meetings, while over 50 women of all ages kissed the old warrior in sheer delight of his birth. All guests insisted that Patil should become the next Prime Minister and drank a toast, "To our next Prime Minister". Patil, of course, blushed as he does often to establish his soft heart.

Brides are prizes of a night. But round that one night is centred the entire romance of the world. Nutan makes a beautiful bride in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a sensational social theme.

THAT some members of the Lok Sabha think that Balu Keskar, our Minister for Broadcasting, has a grudge against the women employees of the All India Radio. Shrimati Uma Nehru said, "It would be one of the wonders of the world if we succeed in getting him to marry". Umaji, of course, suggested this prescription for normal sufferers but the special inhibitions of Balu can be found out only from the Nudist Club in Paris of which Balu, by his own confession, was once a member.

THAT according to Morarji Desai, Rs. 50 lakhs had been earned as foreign exchange by exporting 131,721 Bengali monkeys during the year 1956-57. We think ten million Ram Rajya brand monkeys from the South and Mahabharat brand from the North would solve our entire foreign exchange problem within two years as they will fetch better prices. After all Bengal was never known for monkeys.

THAT while we are exporting monkeys to save our roots and barks of trees for human beings, Vijayalakshmi Pandit, our High Commissioner in London, has been given, according to Pandit Nehru, a pool of eleven cars consisting of a Rolls Royce, an Austin Princess, a Humber Super Snipe, six Humber Hawks, two Volkswagons. Mrs. Pandit uses, of course, the Rolls Royce, a car in which the Queen of England rides. Who said India was a poor country?

THAT missing the wives of the members of the Municipal Corporation at the tenth anniversary celebration of Indian independence, Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Bombay, said, "I am an old and confirmed widower and I feel happy when I get such opportunities to look at other people's wives". An honest Gandhian Congressman! Gandhiji could never concentrate on a prayer meeting without a score of women in front of him.

THAT 500 teachers of Mahakoshal who examined the Matriculation papers in April last have not yet received their fees and allowances. The Mahakoshal Board of Secondary Education is waiting for a loan of Rs. 1,50,000 from the Madhya Pradesh Government. Why doesn't the Board collect a thousand monkeys and ship them to President Eisenhower of America?

THAT according to all-round Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, our Speaker, 4000 out of the 5000 assurances given by the Government during the sessions of the first Lok Sabha have been fully implemented. In the remaining 1000, there are, of course, minor assurances like: "food for all", "jobs for all", "houses for all", "clothes for all", "hospitals for all", "free education", "free medicines", etc., which can easily wait for another hundred years. That is the beauty of statistics. The Government can score a grand success by percentages. 80% of assurances fully implemented! Why are the fools then living on roots and barks of trees? Probably to prevent pyorrhoea under the advice of their dentists! Long Live Nehru Government!

THAT of all people, D. P. Karmarkar, our Health Minister, in a moment of superhuman absent-mindedness bluntly told the Lok Sabha that he would prefer to live 50 miles away from Delhi because of the insanitary conditions in the city. Said Karmarkar, "I almost agree with friends who criticize the insanitary conditions in Delhi". If that is the state of things in our capital where the great Nehru lives, what must be sanitary conditions in the rest of the country? Long Live Nehru Government!

THAT Tax-Terror Krishnamachari, our Finance Minister, told the Lok Sabha on August 13, 1957, that one of the columns in the newspapers in which he was interested was the obituary column. Within five days after this prayer, he got the good news of the death of the 39-year-old Maharaja of Morvi in England. And we thought that Nehru's Government was trying to establish a Welfare State in which every one would be helped to live a hundred years in happy harmony.

THAT Yadevendra Dutt Dubey, a member of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, added some life to the Budget Session of the Assembly when he said, "Let me deal with the organ-grinder (the Minister) first. I will talk to the monkeys later". The word "monkey" infuriated a Congress member, but Dubey continued with his speech without withdrawing the remarks. Comment is hardly necessary.

THAT the Revenue Department of the Uttar Pradesh Government admitted that there were only 34,88,000 mistakes in their land records. They, however, hastened to assure 31,87,400 out of these had been corrected. That brings us to a grand total of 66,75,400 mistakes. In the Uttar Pradesh Government a new mistake often corrects an old one.

THAT Kamlapati Tripathi, the Home Minister of Uttar Pradesh, declared that there will be no more women in the U.P. Police Force because these women quarrelled too much among themselves and not even the gods could do anything about it. The women probably took their cue from C. B. Gupta and Triloki Singh—two stalwarts of the U.P. Congress at one time.

THAT diamonds worth Rs. 17000 used for drilling purposes at the Damodar Valley Project were recently found missing. As the diamonds had already gone round the necks of good domestic wives, S. K. Patil, our chivalrous Minister for Irrigation, etc., told the Rajya Sabha that foreign experts, who were no longer in the service of D.V.C., had taken them. That once again proves that D.V.C. is a real multi-purpose project. The pity, however, is that Patil did not see the diamonds before they were missed.

THAT after a long time E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker, the old Ghazni of the South, is on the right track. His latest "fatwa" to his followers is to burn Gandhiji's pictures wherever they find them. Said Naicker in a public meeting: "Gandhi is responsible for the degradation and ills which the people of Tamil Nad suffer from as a result of the exploitation and domination of North Indians and the Brahmins". We don't agree with the North Indian and the Brahmin part of Naicker's speech, but we also feel that Gandhiji is directly responsible for the present degradation of the whole nation seeing that his heirs have brought upon us all the distress. The Gandhi legend must be destroyed if our country is ever to enjoy the benefits of real democracy.

THAT Brij Behari Srivastava, the Secretary of the District Congress Committee of Barabanki, was convicted by a Sessions Judge to five years' rigorous imprisonment under Section 363 of the Indian Penal Code for kidnapping a young girl called Kumari Savitri. A pseudo Satyawan of the Gandhian Congress!

THAT S. K. Patil, our Man from Malwan, had a narrow escape recently when his car dashed against a bullock cart on the Bombay-Poona road, killing the two bullocks on the spot. Patil didn't get a scratch. That shows that Patil will rise to greater power only after the death of the two Congress bullocks. Some members of the Forum of Free Enterprise held thanksgiving prayers for the lucky escape of their favourite friend.

THAT as soon as the burly Russians of Moscow saw Padmini and Ragini, the Travancore Sisters, they didn't need any more glasses of vodka. But the next minute they saw Saraswati Amma and many Russians rushed to drown themselves in barrels of vodka. Saraswati Amma thus restored their national drink to the Russians. She deserves a Padma Vibhushan for this international service.

THAT film actress Shyama carried water in whiskey bottles to Madh Island and did a drunken act to attract the attention of the Prohibition Police. Now who is the other handsome officer in the Prohibition Police who attracted the attention of Shyama? P. M. Pant, the D.I.G., is the one who was recently declared as the most handsome.

THAT Kamaal Amrohi, husband of film actress Meena Kumari, has at last decided to learn English and offered Rs. 400 a month to a pretty Anglo-Indian teacher living near his house. That is a good way to kill the afternoons when the wife is away on the bread-hunt.

THAT some girls just fish for trouble. Says film actress Mala Sinha, "I have been a fan of Raj Kapoor ever since I have been seeing his hits... I had secretly been entertaining a wish, since those days, to act opposite Raj if ever an opportunity to act in films came my way". Now they are together in "Main Nashemen Hoon"—an appropriate beginning for both.

THAT film actress Sandhya phoned Jayashree the other day reporting a violent quarrel which she (Sandhya) had with V. Shantaram, the producer-director who divorced Jayashree recently. Sandhya wanted to know where to keep her suitcase which Shantaram is reported to have thrown out of the studio. Jayashree advised her to take the suitcase to the retiring room at the Bombay Central station.

THAT film actress Usha Kiran, the new mother, says that nursing a baby is a more hazardous task than working in films. For Advait, her little son, she says, she has to do night shifts which she never did for her films. Why complain now seeing that Advait, himself, is a result of night shifts!

PICTURES in MAKING

A girl who can balance herself on her big toe can make the world dance round her with the rest of her. And the rest in Vyjayantimala is so dynamic that "Aasha", produced and directed by M. V. Raman, threatens to be a rejuvenator of the nation.

Meena Kumari & Raj Kapoor Play Lovers For The First Time In "Sharda"—Vasan's "Raj-Tilak" Becomes A Spectacular Show—Nutan Transports Emotion To "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala"—Fali Mistry Makes "Chandan" Artistic—Mehboob Flies To London For Prints Of "Mother India"—Charming Jayashree Faces Camera In Raman's "Apna Paraya"—AVM's "Hum Panchhi Ek Dalke" Drawing Crowds.

PRASAD PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer-director Prasad has completed many sequences of "Sharda", his maiden social, starring Meena Kumari and Raj Kapoor. This is the first time that these two popular stars have been brought together and they certainly make a refreshing new team instead of the usual, stale combinations. The love scenes, therefore, are bound to be exciting for filmgoers. "Sharda" has also an able supporting cast—Agha, Anita Guha, Raj Mehra, Randhir, the late Gope—and two guest artistes, Shyama and Om Prakash. Lyrics have been composed by Rajendra Krishna and set to music by C. Ramchandra, some of them being definitely on the catchy side. Messrs. Rajshri Productions control the world rights of "Sharda" and it looks as if they have bagged a hit.

GEMINI STUDIOS (Madras)

Those who have seen the rushes of Producer-director S. S. Vasan's "Raj Tilak" swear to it that they have never seen a more spectacular show on the Indian screen. In fact, it is their considered opinion that before "Raj Tilak", the old hit "Chandralekha" pales into insignificance. Filmgoers should now get ready to see "Raj Tilak" for before the end of October, it will be on the screen all over India. "Raj Tilak" has two eye-filling stars—Vyjayantimala and Padmini—opposite Ganesan and supported by Jagirdar, Manmohan Krishna, Pran, Lalita Pawar, Kumar, Agha, Shammi and Master Romi. Music is by C. Ramchandra.

MEHTAB FILMS (Bombay)

Director C. P. Dixit has been shooting "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala" continuously in an attempt to complete the picture quickly. Result: Nine edited reels in the tins today. Nutan, who plays the heroine, has a role here after her own heart. One of our few emotional artistes, Nutan is capable of transporting emotion to the screen in an excellent degree and more so in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala". And her performance makes the picture a 'must'. Kishore Kumar is Nutan's leading man with Shekhar, K. N. Singh, Yakub, Chitra, Lalita Pawar, Ragini and Minoo Mumtaz in important roles. O. P. Nayyar has composed the music. Producer Sardar Ajit Singh has spared no pains to make this 10-lakh venture a great success.

DOSSI FILMS (Bombay)

Producer Fali Mistry's "Chandan" directed by M. V. Raman is fast nearing completion. "Chandan" is a crime drama with many moments of suspense centred round Nutan, the heroine, and Mala Sinha. And the suspense is presented in the most artistic fashion that only a fine camera-artist like Fali is capable of. One of the highlights of "Chandan" is a beautiful dance sequence of talented Kamala Laxman, photographed in Eastman Color and printed by Technicolor. Kishore Kumar and Karan Dewan are cast as two brothers who are brought up in different environments. The imposing cast, apart from these four stars, includes Shyama, Kamala Laxman, Pran, Achla Sachdev, David, Raj Mehra, Randhir, K. N. Singh and Johnny Walker.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Mehboob flew to London on August 21 with little Sajjad, the child star, to get the Technicolor prints of "Mother India", the classic saga of Indian village life, awaiting an all-India premiere. "Mother India" stars Nargis in the main role and as the long-suffering peasant woman is called upon to portray a whole gamut of emotions which she does in an incomparable manner. Sunil Dutt as Nargis' son has a meaty role and he attacks it with a rare relish, thanks to the excellent direction of Mehboob. Rajendra Kumar is the other son and he does well too. The rest of the cast consists of child star Sajjad, Jilloo Bai, Kanhaiyalal, Chanchal, Raj Kumar, etc. "Mother India" is going to be a real money-spinner and likely to create new motion picture history for the picture contains everything that a filmgoer can desire—music, dance, drama, spectacle and last but not least, emotion, the one quality that makes a motion picture truly great. "Mother India" will be released probably during Dassera.

RAMAN PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Film actress Jayashree, petite and attractive, faced the camera for the muhurt of M. V. Raman's "Apna Paraya", at the Raman Studios with Producer-cameraman Fali Mistry acting as the clapper-boy. "Apna Paraya" is another entertaining social to be directed by Raman and will star Jayashree supported by Nishi, Raj Mehra, Randhir and Om Prakash. The casting of the male lead is still being discussed. Rajendra Krishna is composing the lyrics with his inseparable friend C. Ramchandra giving the music. "Aasha" directed by Raman and starring Vyjayantimala and Kishore Kumar is scheduled for an early release at the Roxy, Bombay. "Aasha" has an excellent dance number in Gevacolor, as one of its many attractions.

AVM PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

"Hum Panchhi Ek Dalke", a children's film, starring Satish Vyas, Daisy Irani, Master Romi, etc., had a glittering premiere on August 8, at the Metro, Bombay, with Mr. Y. B. Chavan, Chief

Minister of Bombay as the guest of honour. Delightfully entertaining and without much sermonizing, the picture has become a favourite with both children and adults and has been running for three continuous weeks at the Metro. Though the production of children's films is still at an experimental stage, Producer Meiyappan must be congratulated for his successful effort in this direction. "Hum Panchhi" was also shown to our President Dr. Rajendra Prasad at Trivandrum on Independence Day who appreciated it very much. By virtue of its purposeful contents, "Hum Panchhi" deserves to be exempted from entertainment tax.

Is it crime in the embrace of law? If not, it is at least a collision of desire. It is a clinch that leads to accidents of sex. Pradeep Kumar creates a rigour of sex in Nadira in "Police", a crime thriller.

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SADIQ PRODUCTIONS (PRIVATE) LTD. (Bombay)

Producer-director M. Sadiq has made steady progress with "Khota Paisa", another laugh-filled comedy, on the sets now. Comedian Johnny Walker plays the title role opposite charming Shyama supported by Ansari, Jeevan, Dhumal, Amir Banu and S. N. Bannerji. The musical score is by O. P. Nayyar. Meanwhile "Mai Baap" is more than three-quarters ready. This one stars Shyama opposite Balraj Sahni, with Minoo Mumtaz, Nazir Hussain and Raj Mehra lending good support.

BIMAL ROY PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Quite a few sequences of "Apradhi Kaun" have been shot by Director Asit Sen. "Apradhi Kaun" is a crime drama starring Mala Sinha, Abhi Bhattacharya, Jagirdar and supported by Tarun Bose, Kammo and Kumud Tripathy. Producer Bimal Roy is now finalizing the script of "Sujata" written by well-known Bengali writer Subodh Ghosh. "Sujata" is the story of an untouchable girl who is adopted by a respectable couple. The emotional conflict is brought about by their own daughter against their adopted one. Nutan will portray the untouchable girl with Sunil Dutt as the hero. Others in the cast are Lalita Pawar, Sulochana and Tarun Bose. Bimal Roy's "Madhumati" starring Vyjayantimala and Dilip Kumar is getting the finishing touches.

PUSHPA PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer A. A. Nadiadwala has completed ten reels of "Mehndi" starring Jayashree opposite Ajit in her first come-back picture. Looking younger and more attractive than ever before, Jayashree's histrionic talent has been suitably framed by director S. M. Yusuf in this Muslim social. "Mehndi" is an emotional drama and with Jayashree as the heroine, we are sure, there will be much in the picture for the eye and the heart.

DESAI FILMS (Bombay)

Producer Moghabhai Desai has taken up a Muslim social "Pervin" starring Chitra and Rehman for production and has already finished a good bit of it. The direction is by Nanubhai Vakil of "Alam Ara" fame. "Pervin" depicts the real essence of Islam and incidentally proves that the greatness of all religions lies in its utter submission to the almighty God and service to human beings on earth. The supporting cast includes Minoo Mumtaz, W. M. Khan, Tun Tun and Kesari and introduces a new face in Akbar Jehan. Lyrics by Kaifee Azmi have been set to music by A. R. Qureishi. "Pervin" is likely to be released by the end of October 1957.

SUPER PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer-director Aspi Irani has progressed well with the shooting of "Naya Paisa", a satirical comedy written by well-known writer Adi Marzban round the naya paisa—the present new coin—that has caused quite a bit of confusion in our present-day life. In "Naya Paisa" Johnny Walker plays a triple role and in one song sequence of trick photography Johnny Walker has three lovely cuties to contend with, all at the same time. So far six reels and four songs have been completed. One of the songs, probably the theme song, in the picture runs thus: "Jisne paisa naya banaya, uska hooka pani band". Anyway "Naya Paisa" is good, clean fun about the naya paisa.

Jayashree has a slim and dainty figure. To cloak it with a thick and loose costume is to outrage art. A girl, who deserves to be dressed in the vapour of desire, can hardly give a good account of herself in this ill-fitting costume in "Mehndi", a bridal tale of love produced by Pushpa Pictures.

VYJAYANTIMALA—

This is the product of Nehru's Panchshila which is changing not only the face of our country but also the complexion of our women. Evidently the Ram Rajya which we are promised is going to be an American edition of the original. Vyjayantimala wears this new armour for the old war of sexes in "Aasha", a brilliantly entertaining film produced and directed by M. V. Raman, the box-office wizard of the South.

Epidemics In India–1

CHOLERA—

THE GUEST THAT KILLS

When I sent a homeopathic prescription, for the prevention and cure of Influenza, to the newspapers for publication during the recent epidemic, I did not realize that I would be inundated with hundreds of letters thanking me for the prescription, nor did I expect hundreds more containing particulars of various personal ailments and praying for a prescription.

I have merely been a research student of homoeopathy for several years and my practical application of this great science has been confined to myself, my family, some close friends and a couple of hundred poor people around me whom I treat free. It is purely a labour of love done with the single purpose of collecting enough material for a practical book useful to our community in the villages. I have not yet practised homoeopathy on a professional level.

People in distress, who have sent me frantic letters recently, do not probably know that homoeopathy is not a science of mass medication like allopathy. In homoeopathy the individual has to be treated according to the symptoms peculiar to him and one has not to prescribe for an already named disease. In allopathy a disease is baptized first with a name and then the doctor begins his treatment. Without the name the allopathic physician vainly gropes for a prescription.

Homoeopathy treats the sick man and not the name of the disease and in homoeopathy if some one does insist upon knowing the name of a disease, the most accurate name of the disease to give would be the name of the patient—not even of the drug which has often to be changed according to the changing symptoms in the patient.

A prescription in homoeopathy is, therefore, usually made with the patient sitting in front of the prescriber and that too after carefully taking down on paper all the symptoms of the patient along with his family history if it is necessary to find out hereditary traits. Mail-order prescriptions are, therefore, out of the question in homoeopathy because the science does not baptize its diseases and give them Christian names to enable one to make a formular prescription.

In epidemics like Influenza, Cholera, Smallpox, Measles, Chickenpox, etc., in which a large number of symptoms are common to many people, it is, however, possible to prescribe a few well-proven drugs to prevent and cure the diseases to a large extent. And yet even in these diseases the treatment of an individual should as far as possible be guided by a strict appreciation of the symptoms peculiar to the individual. Whatever the disease, epidemic or endemic, the ultimate treatment in homoeopathy has to be on a basis of the totality of symptoms in the individual if a complete cure is the ultimate aim of the healer.

It is, therefore, not strictly right, nor even scientific, to give a prescription, even in the case of an epidemic, and that too guided by a name. And yet certain epidemics throw up such a large number of symptoms common to so large a number of people, that the healer, with his innate love of humanity, is often tempted to risk a general prescription in the hope of bringing relief to the distressed.

It is in this spirit, encouraged by the letters received by me, that I have decided to prescribe, time and space permitting, some basic and yet effective homoeopathic remedies for certain epidemic diseases with a prayer that they will be useful to those who are situated far away from professional medical help.

THE DISEASE PICTURE

In this poor and hospitable country, we have many uninvited visitors coming to us from year to year and taking many of us with them. An epidemic that kills thousands and thousands of people in our country every year is the fearful Cholera which usually catches our people napping in Kumbh and the various other religious "melas" of ours right in the midst of their religious fervour.

Where there is an epidemic, Cholera is not difficult to diagnose. Cholera is a serious disease caused by the comma bacillus. It is conveyed from man to man through infected water, milk, fruit or food. Even flies and fingers may also convey the vibrio. Over-crowding, poverty, filth, foul air and intemperance are contributory causes.

Cholera may begin quite suddenly or there may be a few days of diarrhoea, not necessarily choleraic at the onset. It is usually a painless diarrhoea. But other symptoms soon set in and the patient may have sudden prostration; tremors; dizziness; spasm of the bowels and limbs; profuse rice-water stools, even with a little blood; vomiting; coldness of body, tongue and breath; unquenchable thirst; rapid pulse and respiration; eyes sunk and the voice feeble; low blood pressure; albuminous or suppressed urine; bluish body with a peculiar odour.

THE DRUG PICTURES

The remedies given below should be selected according to the symptoms mentioned:

Homoeopathic Camphor (Rubini's) as distinct from the allopathic one—is an excellent first remedy at the **very onset** with only diarrhoea, chilliness and spasmodic pains in the abdomen. In the very early stage it can cure the disease immediately. Dose: 3 drops on a teaspoonful of sugar every ½ hour till relief is obtained.

Aconite 1x is another useful remedy in the early stage with diarrhoea with **great pain in the bowels,** coldness of body and corpse-like appearance. It restores the pulse rapidly. Dose: 3 drops every fifteen minutes if necessary.

Veratrum Alb 3x. When you miss the early stage and there are profuse watery stools, cold sweat on forehead, excessive vomiting, great prostration following a stool, pain in the abdomen before a stool. Dose: 3 drops every thirty minutes.

Ready for the destiny that is man! When a woman becomes a bride, her dreams take rainbow hues and though her future is uncertain, yet she lights a lamp of hope in the innocent belief that the man of her destiny will prove himself worthy of an altar. But life is an unending design of sun and shadows and shatters many dreams of the bridal night. Jayashree, the heart-throb of millions, brings new pathos to the screen in "Mehndi", a romantic tale directed by S. M. Yusuf and produced by A. A. Nadiadwalla for Pushpa Pictures.

Arsenic Alb 3x, is indicated when there is a **sudden extreme prostration,** the discharges are **scanty** and not profuse like Veratrum Alb., great restlessness, cramps, suppressed urine, vomiting and **burning** internally. It is an ideal remedy for ptomaine poisoning. Dose: 3 drops every thirty to sixty minutes.

Cuprum Aceticum 1, is another excellent remedy when the cramps and spasms are **intense,** coldness of the surface of the body, dry mouth, bluish skin, cramps of the muscles of the calves, violent pains, profuse vomiting and purging but **not** the cold sweat on forehead found in Veratrum Alb. Dose: 3 drops every 30 or 60 minutes.

PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

1. **Rubini's Camphor,** 3 drops on sugar twice a day morning and evening every alternate day, as a general preventive till the epidemic has passed.
2. **Cuprum Acet 3x—**for doctors and nurses much exposed to the disease—one drop night and morning in a little water, during the epidemic.
3. **Anti-Cholera Vaccine,** given by allopathic doctors, two doses at a week's interval, also affords protection for several months.

Any one of the above three preventives will be found very useful when the epidemic is raging.

The five remedies given above do not, however, constitute the complete range of homoeopathic treatment for Cholera. Cholera often has many complications and calls for other remedies according to the peculiar symptoms of the patient. But these are basic remedies which almost any layman with a little intelligence can safely use in an emergency with remarkable results. They are always worth keeping in the travelling bag.

Other Measures: Rub the body, give plenty of ice and iced water—no heavy food and stimulants—disinfect bedding and clothing—clean the surroundings—avoid all exposure to cold—diet should be very light and wholesome—avoid raw vegetables, sour and unripe fruits, cucumber, salads, etc.—absolute rest in bed in a recumbent posture.

The figure after the name of the remedy, e.g. 3x, shows the potency (strength) of the drug. With the exception of Camphor, which is available in a liquid form, the drugs can be had either in liquid or in pills. For travellers, pills, in size No. 30, are more convenient. Three or four pills should be taken for a dose. The pills should be allowed to dissolve on the tongue—and not taken with water. In an acute condition the dose should be repeated every 15 minutes if necessary but as relief is obtained the interval between the doses should be increased till two doses a day—morning and night—are reached. The medicine should be continued for a week after recovery.

The drugs should be bought only from **reliable** homoeopathic chemists. An allopathic chemist in a suburban town recently sold Arnica to a textile mill saying that it was another name for Arsenic. The Labour Welfare Officer phoned me and asked me whether it was so. The supply was immediately returned.

And finally don't forget a prayer to the Lord! Cholera is one of those diseases which call for five Islamic prayers every day.

Baburao Patel

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CHAND USMANI—

Dreams never come true but they draw rainbows in the mind and give some consolation. When a man is not round the corner, a woman takes only dreams to bed. Chand Usmani, a fine and sensitive artiste, brings new emotion to the screen in "Naya Paisa", a social theme produced and directed by Aspi Irani.

When the sophisticated wear an orthodox look they lend new glamour to innocence. The big "tilak" on Meena Kumari's forehead gives her a new domestic charm in "Sharda", a romantic tale directed by Prasad for Prasad Productions.

ADIEU, HASNAIN!

Karachi, July 20.

Producer-director Hasnain Fazli died in Karachi on Tuesday, July 16, after a short illness. He was in his late forties and had migrated to Pakistan with his wife and twelve children only two years ago, probably to escape his numerous creditors in India.

Born in a cultured Muslim family in Uttar Pradesh, Hasnain never felt quite at home in the film industry. But his love of art goaded him into the film world, producing films first in Calcutta, then in Bombay and finally ending in Pakistan with "Duaa".

Endowed with the typical nawabi disposition, Hasnain took his film work too in the same leisurely spirit and he therefore produced only seven pictures during his fairly long career as a producer-director. Some of his pictures are "Chowringhee", "Qaidi", "Masoom" and "Fashion".

It was "Fashion" that brought him into the limelight when Editor Baburao Patel described it as "the best social picture of 1943" and "a monument of good art". After that Hasnain never produced a really good picture.

He was a personal friend of Editor Patel to whom he was sentimentally attached for years though Hasnain on some occasions did show his communal bias. And yet Hasnain was one man who must have felt uncomfortable in the midst of most of the crude Muslims of Karachi, inheriting as he did the polished U.P. culture.

Hasnain's death is a particular loss to us for we have lost a dear, dear friend. May his soul rest in peace!

STILL-BORN SCRIPT

New York, August 2.

Though a few weeks ago film actress Marilyn Monroe denied pointblank about her impending motherhood, the truth hit fans in the eye when on August 1, sexy blonde Marilyn was admitted into a New York hospital in a delicate condition to prevent her from getting a miscarriage.

However, the accident of miscarriage did happen and Marilyn lost her baby.

So we will have to wait for some more months to greet Mama Marilyn. Hubby Arthur Miller's 'script' seems to have gone wrong this time.

LAURELS FOR RAJ

Karlovy Vary, July 26.

Producer-director-actor Raj Kapoor, who has been lately sailing in the doldrums, found an occasion at last for some merry-making. At the International Film Festival held in Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, recently, Raj's picture "Jagte Raho" (Hindi) or "Under The Cover Of Night" won the coveted Grand Prix from 70 feature and documentary films submitted by 42 countries of the world. The Festival jury praised "Jagte Raho" of R.K. Films, starring Raj Kapoor, for "its deep humane contents, expressed in a remarkable poetic form". The main prize for acting went to the team of actors in the French film "The Witches Of Salem".

The jury awarded a special prize to the Chinese film "New Year's Sacrifice", and three other awards for a feature film to "Professor Hannibal" (Hungary), "High Up" (Soviet Union) and "Lissy" (East Germany).

The Bengali version of "Jagte Raho" titled "Ek Din Ratre" had already won a Certificate of Merit at the Government of India's award-giving ceremony held early this year.

Let us hope the Grand Prix acts as the right incentive to Raj and puts him once again on the path of hard and sincere work.

BACK TO CENSORSHIP

Bombay, July 17.

Mr. M. D. Bhat is back again at his old job since July 15 as the Chairman of the Central Board of Film Censors. He had relinquished his job in May 1957 but evidently wiser counsel prevailed.

Mr. Dilip Kothari, who was appointed Chairman in Mr. Bhat's absence, has now returned to his former post of Bombay Regional Officer.

MILLER SENTENCED

Washington D.C., July 19.

Federal District Judge, Mr. Charles McLaughlin, sentenced playwright Arthur Miller to 30 days in prison for contempt of Congress.

In lieu of serving 30 days in jail, the judge ordered that Mr. Miller be placed on probation for three months. Mr. Miller's attorney has started proceedings to appeal against the sentence.

In spite of having one of the top actresses, Marilyn Monroe, for his wife, Arthur Miller doesn't seem to have peace of mind. His undue obstinacy to reply to questions asked by the Un-American Activities Committee has landed him in this trouble.

KULDIP IN COURT

Bombay, July 21.

Mr. Justice Chainani and Mr. Justice Tambe, Bombay High Court, admitted a revision application filed by film actress Kuldip Kaur and directed the stay of proceedings arising out of the sanction granted by a presidency magistrate to prosecute Kuldip Kaur and Hemraj Mehra, on charges of conspiracy, fabricating or giving false evidence and using a forged document as genuine, pending the disposal of the application.

Kuldip Kaur had charged Kaikushru Savaksha Dubash with cheating her of Rs. 12,000 paid through a cheque in July 1956. The presidency magistrate acquitted Dubash and sanctioned prosecution of Kuldip Kaur and Hemraj Mehra.

In her revision application Kuldip said that the magistrate had relied on findings which were incorrect and that the ap-

When a man in autumn meets a girl in spring, he has to learn new lessons in love from her text-book. Helen gets a very submissive pupil in Bhagwan in "Raja Beta", a thrilling tale of love produced by Vallabh Productions.

pellant ought to have been given an opportunity to be heard before the sanction for prosecution was given.

GINA'S NEW ACQUISITION

Rome, July 30.

Well-proportioned Italian actress, Gina Lollobrigida, 29, became mother of a bonny son at the Salvador Mundi Clinic, Rome. The child was christened 'Mirko' after the father.

One of the top earners among Italian film stars, Gina shone recently in quite a few Hollywood pictures, some of them being: "The Most Beautiful Girl In The World", "Trapeze", "Beat The Devil", "Woman Of Rome", etc. Her sex-appeal lies mainly in her large-sized bust and slim waistline and the Italians are as crazy about her as the Yankees are of Marilyn Monroe.

Happily married to Drago Milan (Mirko) Skofic, this is Gina's first experience of motherhood. Let us hope motherhood doesn't suck out the charms out of Gina. That would leave Sophia Loren, Gina's acknowledged competitor, without a rival.

CONTRAVENTION OF EXCHANGE

Bombay, July 31.

Mr. Justice Chainani and Mr. Justice Tambe, Bombay High Court, dismissed the appeal made by Walaitilal Kohli who had been fined Rs. 1,000 by the Chief Presidency Magistrate for contravening the foreign exchange regulations.

According to the prosecution, the appellant had paid Rs. 23,000/- to a firm in Bombay on October 11, 1951, on behalf of Evernew Pictures of Lahore, "a person resident outside India" without obtaining permission from the Reserve Bank of India and in contravention of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act.

These kind of transactions are fairly common in the film industry. But only once in a while are the culprits brought to book. It is time that Indo-Pakistani money transactions in the film industry were scrutinized more carefully by the Reserve Bank of India.

NO SMOKING

London, August 2.

Two London cinemas owned by Mr. A. E. Rhodes have banned smoking at all performances. This is the first time that smoking has been banned in British cinemas.

Mr. Rhodes said that the ban was imposed because most of his patrons desired it. Let us hope more British cinemas follow the ban on smoking. Smoking in stuffy cinemas invariably makes the atmosphere stuffier and more suffocating.

SHOW OF TEMPER

Milan, July 21.

Film people sometimes put more realism in life than on the screen. One such realistic scene of slaps and blows was enacted by renowned film producer, David Selznick, and his production manager, Arthur Fellows.

It started during the shooting of a motor boat scene on Lake Maggiore for the film, "A Farewell To Arms". Fellows would not listen to Selznick's advice and Selznick showed his superiority with the help of arguments and a couple of slaps. Fellows returned the compliment with more punches.

Selznick as the boss, however, had the last word: "You are fired". That ended the quarrel.

WASTEFUL LUXURY

Delhi, July 16.

The two-man report on India's national theatre has been officially accepted though the construction of this costly 1-crore project may take some time owing to the shortage of steel and cement.

The project was originally sponsored by the Ministry of Education. Nawab Zain Yar Jung, a well-known architect of Hyderabad, and Mr. M. M. Rana, a former lecturer of the Delhi Polytechnic and now attached to C.P.W.D., were sent to visit theatres abroad. They saw 54 theatres in 9 countries of Europe and America in 2½ months and then submitted a report.

The proposed national theatre will have a seating capacity of 2500.

We are very much impressed with our crore-rupee projects. Everything in Congress India must begin from a crore upwards. Has not the cost of the famous government-owned Ashoka Hotel already increased from 2 crores to 2.75 crores? And all that the Hotel has shown so far are only heavy losses. The national theatre is bound to go the same way. But then there is no other alternative because only in costly projects like these can the Congress contractors earn fat commissions.

HARDY'S LAST COMEDY

Hollywood, August 8.

Hollywood film comedian, Oliver Hardy, died in Los Angeles at the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Minnia Jones, on August 7 at the age of 65. He had an attack of cerebral haemorrhage on September 12, last year and since then was confined to bed with paralysis.

Born near Atlanta, Georgia, in 1892, Hardy's father had hoped to make his son take up a military career but Hardy thought otherwise. He joined a troupe of minstrels and then got into show business and later into films—all the hard, hard way. Hardy with Stan Laurel, another comedian, formed a wonderful comedy team and their antics on the screen became the rage of the day. Many were the Laurel and Hardy pictures that brought fame and profits to them and gave to the screen a rare combination of the fat and the slim that will be remembered for long by fans. Some of the popular comedies in which Hardy

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starred with the inseparable Stan Laurel are: "Rogue Song", "They Go Boom", "Nothing But Trouble" and "Big Noise".

Recently Laurel and Hardy films had gained more admirers among the new generation through television, as their films were being exhibited in weekly coast-to-coast network shows.

The fat, thick-headed Hardy of the screen will not be forgotten easily. And it is doubtful if his screen partner Stan Laurel can get another Hardy as brilliant as the one who is no more.

BABA-BABY RACKET?

Madras, August 1.

Mr. Mahendranath, the sweet-spoken secretary of the All India Children's Film Society, seems to have got round the film people in the South Indian film industry. For quite a few of them have agreed to extend not only their full co-operation but also their free services for the production of children's films.

The Madras State Children's Film Committee has planned to produce a children's film in Tamil about the Periyar Game and Bird Sanctuary.

And yet four lakhs of rupees have been allotted for 1957 and a total of 20 lakhs of rupees for the production of children's films under the second Five-Year Plan to the All India Children's Film Society. Why then should Mahendranath expect free services from film people? Surely Mahendranath is not in the Children's Film Society for the love of children nor must he be offering free service for this great cause.

In spite of spending quite a few lakhs, the two children's films produced by the Society, "Jaldeep" and "Char Dost", have not even been shown commercially. As far as we can see, Mahendranath's Children's Film Society is not running too well. It is rather strange too because Pandit Hridaynath Kunzru, a man of lofty ideals, is the President of the Film Society. Will it be too much to ask Panditji to look into this affair?

THE SARI THRILLS

London, July 29.

Well-known British cinema director, David Lean, 49, was divorced by his 47-year-old actress-wife Ann Todd in London.

The couple had been separated for two years out of their eight married years. They have no children.

David Lean, who was in India recently, it is rumoured, has set his heart on a charming Indian girl. The graceful sari seems to have thrilled the old guy. David Lean came into prominence with his "Brief Encounter", followed by "Great Expectations" and "Summertime".

ABBOT-COSTELLO SPLIT

Hollywood, July 15.

Bud Abbot and Lou Costello, one of the most popular and successful comedy teams, will not work together in future.

The split, we are told, has no special reason behind it except that Bud Abbot, who is 62, just doesn't feel like working for some time. Bud spends most of his time on his ranch in Ojai valley where, according to Costello, "he wears cowboy boots all the time and has six shooters strapped at his side; he sits on the front porch and picks off coyotes if they wander on his property."

The Abbot-Costello legal partnership is still there and the two get their respective percentages from their motion pictures. Bud Abbot and Lou Costello turned out to be a lucky team for Universal-International during its lean years for one movie "Buck Privates" starring the two which cost $90,000 to make, collected $10,000,000.

Probably Bud is sulking and hopes to get a bigger price after a short retirement. These are the usual tricks of the trade.

Costello, who is 49, however, is reported to have said, "I'm tired of being slapped in the face. We can best go it alone." Costello is therefore planning "some constructive comedy with fresh writers."

BANNED FILMS

New Delhi, July 20.

The Government of India has banned the following films: "The King And I" produced by 20th Century Fox; "Lucretia Borgia" produced by Francine Rizzoli Films; "Summertime" produced by Lopert Films and "The Outlaw" produced by Howard Hughes. The last one is an old western picture which brought bosomy Jane Russell to stardom.

"The King And I", starring Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr, was shown some time ago in Bombay and widely appreciated.

Evidently the Government did find something objectionable and unsuitable from the point of view of the Indian public. Were the film censors sleeping?

Romance has a monkey age and a bear age. The romance of the bears thrills only bears but that of monkeys thrills all. Raj Kapoor is good at monkey tricks in romance and Meena Kumari needs all her patience to keep him at arm's length in "Sharda", a sensational social theme directed by Prasad for Prasad Productions.

DEATH OF A HERO

Paris, July 25.

Russian-born but French-bred actor-playwright-producer Alexandre Georges Pierre Guitry, better known as Sacha Guitry died in Paris on July 24 at the age of 72.

Born in St. Petersburg, Sacha inherited acting traditions from his actor father Lucien Guitry. At 19 Sacha wrote his first comedy and kept on writing, completing 130 dramatic works in his long career. His serious plays include "Pasteur", "Mozart", while in "L'Illusionniste", Sacha showed his skill in farcical portrayals.

His better known films are "If Versailles Could Speak To Me", "Napoleon" and "Three Make A Pair". Sacha Guitry was a member of the French Academy, a Commander in the Legion of Honour and held many foreign decorations and honours.

Frenchmen enjoyed Sacha's wit and sarcasm. He was an institution to them though his politics often angered them.

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Happy in her triumph! We don't know what the other fellow is feeling like. Shashikala still continues to thrill with her ripe womanhood in "Nau Do Gyarah", a romantic tale directed by Vijay Anand.

TAX EXEMPTION

Bombay, July 31.

The Government of Bombay has exempted from payment of entertainment duty all shows of the documentary film "The Voice Of India" and of other documentaries produced by the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, in the Saurashtra and Kutch areas, subject to the condition that the expenses in respect of the shows do not exceed 30% of the gross receipts and the net proceeds equal to 70% or more of the gross receipts, are devoted to charitable purposes.

The exemption will remain in force till March 14, 1958, but it will not apply to shows held before July 23, 1957. A similar exemption has been already given to this documentary in the pre-reorganized Bombay States, excluding the transferred territories.

Pictures on Gandhi have to be given this encouragement to make people conscious of the father of the nation.

SETTLING DOWN

London, August 9.

Film actress Merle Oberon married wealthy Mexican industrialist, Senor Bruno Pagliai, in Rome. The ceremony was performed in the Four Holy Martyrs' Church in Rome and it was their first valid marriage because they were married under Roman Catholic rites.

Both have been married three times before, Merle's former husbands being the late Sir Alexander Korda, Lucien Ballard and Count Giorgio Cini who died in an aircrash.

This seems to be Merle's last marriage because a divorce after a Roman Catholic union is usually never granted. Anyway, one has to settle down some time in life and Merle admits to 46 (the usual star age).

OLD GRIEVANCE

Lucknow, July 25.

The Cinema Exhibitors' Association of U.P. met at the Basant Theatre, Lucknow, on Monday, July 22, to discuss the situation arising out of the U.P. Government's decision to enhance by 50% the rates of entertainment tax.

The exhibitors in their resolution said that the higher classes in cinemas were already going empty and most people were patronizing the lower classes on account of the present economic slump. The increase of 50% would only worsen the situation because people could not afford such costly entertainment.

But the U.P. Government is in no mood to listen to the grievances of exhibitors. The whole idea of State Governments as well as the Centre is to collect as much money as possible to feed the second Five-Year Plan. The sufferings of the people are of no consequence.

TEACHING THROUGH HYPNOSIS

London, July 30.

Cary Grant, still one of Hollywood's top actors at 53, seems to be happily enough a devoted husband off the screen. Whether it is wife Betsy Drake's youthful personality (she is just 33) or her fine temperament, the Grant-Drake marriage is still going strong.

And the reformation that has come over Cary is remarkable. Said Cary to reporters in London: "I've given up smoking and I've given up drinking. Now I can devote all my energy to the only vice I've got left—love-making."

Cary attributes this change in life to his wife Betsy who has taught him the art of relaxing through hypnosis. The result as Cary puts it is, "I haven't a tense muscle in my body. I believe that 60 is the prime of life... It will be for me. Everyone shapes himself like a sculptor. If you decide that you are going to be handsome, youthful, and fit for the rest of your life, you will be. It's as simple as that."

That is a loyal wife. Betsy knows how to humour a husband.

GINGER FREE

Hollywood, July 25.

Film actress Ginger Rogers, 45, divorced her actor-husband Jacques Bergerac, 30, in Santa Monica after four years of marriage. Ginger charged him with being "grumpy" and accused him of driving his car too fast. The speed probably was too much for Ginger who is 15 years Jacques' senior.

But his short-lived marriage to glamorous Ginger has given Jacques a new personality and now he is being starred in "A Man And His Past", a French picture, based on the novel by Constantin Weyer. Before Ginger came into his life Jacques was not even noticed much. Ginger seems to have injected talent and spirit into the young boy, if nothing else.

MARKET FOR OUR FILMS

New Delhi, July 25.

The market for Indian films abroad is slowly widening, particularly after Mehboob's "Aan" created some smashing records in the Middle East, the Africas, etc.

The commercial secretary of the Indian Embassy in Baghdad has prepared a report showing the possibilities in regard to the export of Indian films for exhibition in Iraq. Iraqi film distributors are anxious to book Indian films.

There are about 30 cinema houses in Baghdad for a population of 600,000. The total seating capacity is 35,000.

In Basra there are 10 cinema houses with a total seating capacity of 10,000. The rest of Iraq has some 50 theatres with an average capacity of 400 to 800. Then there are 5 cinemas in Jordan and 6 in Bahrain.

Apart from these cinemas, the oil companies in these areas have their own arrangements for the exhibition of films.

Let us hope more and more Indian films will be exploited in this area in future.

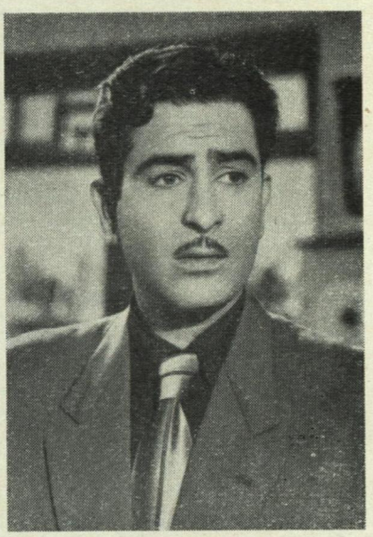
NEVER TOO LATE

Hollywood, July 17.

Mrs. Katherine Crawford, 39, divorced her hubby-actor Broderick Crawford, 50, in Santa Monica, California.

The couple was married for 16 years and though 16 years is a long time for one to get habituated to the other, in Hollywood somehow, the foundation of the home can crack up at any given minute. They have two young sons.

Broderick Crawford usually works as the villain in Hollywood pictures some of his popular ones being, "All The King's Men", in which he won an Academy Award, "Born Yesterday", "Scandal Sheet", "New York Confidential", "Big House U.S.A.", and "Not As A Stranger".



Life is shaping this young man a bit too hurriedly. He has to unlearn many things he imagines he knows, for education in life begins at the spot where the realization of ignorance comes. Raj Kapoor gives a thrilling performance in "Sharda", a social romance produced by Prasad Productions.

HYMN OF HATRED

Karachi, August 9.

The Pakistanis' blind hatred for India is goading them to do wrong things be it in the field of politics or films to the utter detriment of the country.

In keeping with this stupid, unreasonable policy, the Pakistan Chamber of Film Industry passed a resolution recently asking the Pakistan Government to levy "heavy duties on foreign films, particularly on Indian ones" to protect the local industry. The Chamber also said that all cinemas in Pakistan should show Pakistani films six months in every year.

But not one man from the Chamber turns round and asks himself: "Where are the Pakistani pictures?" And even if there were, are the Pakistanis themselves willing to face their indigenous tortures? We had a fine sample of a Pakistani film recently in India when we saw "Intezar" starring Pakistan's top star Nur Jehan. We have not yet recovered from that shock.

BENGALI TEAR-JERKER

Venice, August 6.

The organizers of the Venice Film Festival have selected Satyajit Ray's Bengali film "Aparajita" (The Guest) for the next festival. The selection was made from 14 films.

Satyajit Ray, the Bengali film director, came into prominence with "Pather Panchali" the award-winning picture he directed so beautifully.

Let us hope "Aparajita" is as good as "Pather Panchali" if not better.

FLIGHT TO FREEDOM

Rome, August 5.

It is difficult for art to bloom in a regime of repression and that is why we often hear of artistes, writers, painters, etc., running away from the scene of action merely in order to breathe the fresh, fragrant air of freedom.

Recently Rumania's top stage actress, Nina Diaconescu, who was touring with the National Theatre Company in Venice is reported to have quietly slipped away to Milan and asked the police there for political asylum.

Nina seems to be a sensitive actress. The Communists must have made her sick.

EXPORTING INDIAN FILMS

New Delhi, August 5.

Dr. B. V. Keskar, Minister for Information and Broadcasting, told the Lok Sabha in New Delhi, that the export of Indian films had considerably increased.

There were no restrictions on the export of films from India to foreign countries.

As regards the dubbing of Indian films in foreign languages, Dr. Keskar said that only popular films with well-known actors should be dubbed in foreign languages.

In spite of the fact that there are no restrictions on the export of films from India, very few are actually allowed to be exported. Of course the favourites of Government need never worry.

EARTHA IN TROUBLE

New York, August 5.

The African Room, a New York night club, is reported to have issued a writ claiming £70,000 damages from Eartha Kit, the famous Negress singer.

The night club management said that Eartha behaved in a "boisterous" manner, threw glasses of champagne on the table and finally struck the manager, Mr. Kanter, calling him "a thief running a clip joint."

But Eartha's version of this incident was entirely different. Explained Eartha, "I thought the bill which was just under £40 was preposterous. After our party was seated we ordered champagne. I never drink, so I had nothing. I asked for the bill, so I could have it sent to my office. They would not give it to me. That is all there is to the whole story".

Whatever be the actual truth, Eartha has her hands full with the writ. Eartha had recently come to India and met Pandit Nehru.

NEW CRITERIA

Bombay, August 5.

No films have been selected for this quarter by the newly-formed committee, for purposes of exemption from entertainment duty, because of their unsuitability in this respect. The committee was appointed by the Government of Bombay some time ago.

The Government of Bombay in a note said that apart from a high standard in theme and other production values, the picture should also contain a high social purpose for the picture to obtain this exemption.

ENTERTAINMENT IN COURT

London, August 5.

When a matter-of-fact court of law has to deal with film and stage matters, the court is likely to become an exciting place. And that is what Assize Court at Lewes, Sussex, was when two chorus girls kicked their way through a couple of dances before Mr. Justice Stable to prove a particular point.

The case concerns a chorus girl who is suing a theatrical agent for damages alleging that she was injured when appearing in a show. The chorus girl fell off a rostrum when it collapsed.

The two chorus girls, however, did their hip-swinging act in blouses and tights as scanty costumes may have shocked the Court.

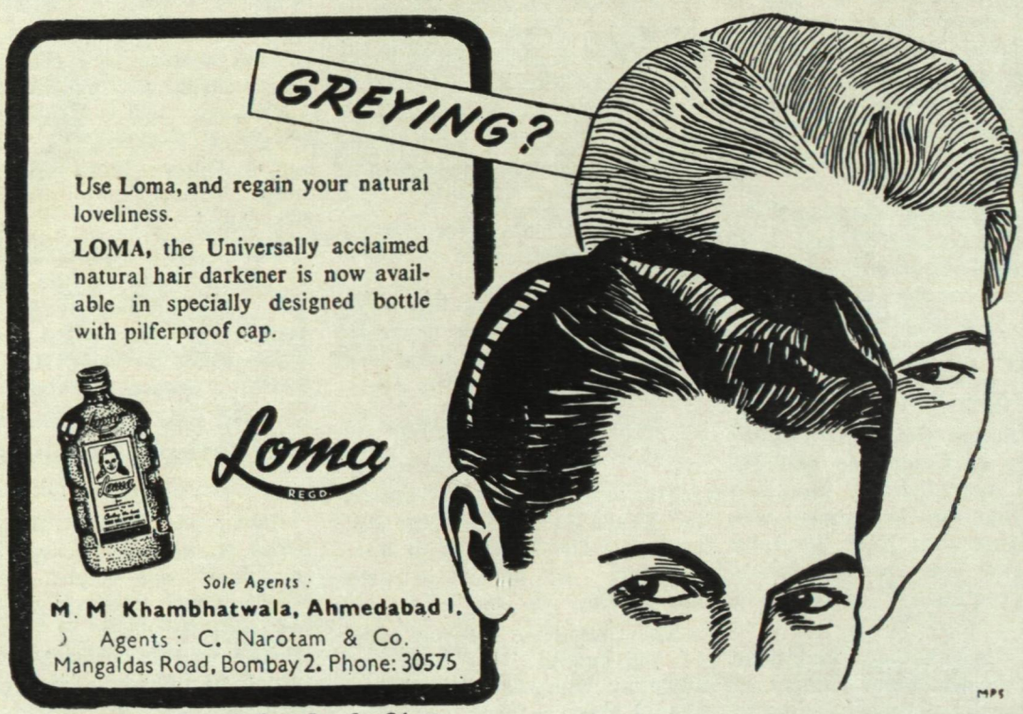
Mr. Justice Stable seeing the act said, "I wish all my cases were as entertaining."

The case was adjourned.

CHAMPION OF EXISTENTIALISM

London, August 5.

The existentialist guys of Montmartre in Paris are all excited about the giddy stardom which has come the way of attractive, black-haired crooner Juliette Greco. She has already made her film debut in Darryl Zanuck's "The Sun Also Rises" starring Tyrone Power and Ava Gardner and will co-star with Richard Todd in "The Naked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His own life may be sad and there may be pathos lurking in his smile but he makes the world laugh and forget its worries. Kishore Kumar, our most versatile playboy, brings new fun to the screen in "Chandan", a romantic tale directed by M. V. Raman for Dossi Films.

Earth", a British picture for 20th Century Fox, now being shot in Uganda. And Juliette will get a six-figure salary this time.

Juliette's name is already being linked romantically with that of Darryl Zanuck whom she finds "fascinating, brilliant and intelligent."

Juliette's rise to fame was through a night club which later became the popular haunt of many existentialists. She is also a good friend of Jean Paul Sartre, the originator of this Existentialist philosophy. Sartre wrote poems for Juliette and she sang them to thrill the others when she began her singing career.

Darryl Zanuck, however, is a married man and 53 and it is possible that Juliette's attachment towards him may only be of the existentialist type.

EXCUSE FOR WASTE

New Delhi, August 9.

Mr. Satish Chandra, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, revealed in the Lok Sabha that the Government was negotiating with East Germany for a raw film manufacturing plant costing 5 crores of rupees.

That is another ambitious project of the Government of which we have been hearing so much in the last few years. It looks as if the raw film project is another excuse for more waste of taxpayers' money.

TAPE-RECORDED EVIDENCE

Bombay, August 8.

Mr. R. S. Parikh, Presidency Magistrate, Girgaum Court, on 30th July, heard the tape-recorded telephonic conversation said to have taken place between Mr. Kuldip K. Kapur, financier of B.R. Films and Attaullah Khan, father of film actress Madhubala, regarding some monies alleged to have been paid to the accused on August 27, 1956.

After hearing the tape-recorded conversation, Mr. R. S. Parikh, Presidency Magistrate, admitted it as prosecution evidence. The transcription of the conversation marked for identification was found to be "substantially correct."

On Tuesday, August 6, Mr. K. K. Kapur was further cross-examined in the 'Madhubala Case' when he admitted that he had made certain incorrect statements during his telephonic conversation with the accused Attaullah Khan in order to get the correct version out of Attaullah's mouth.

Further hearing of the case was adjourned.

IN A HURRY

Hollywood, August 12.

Jose Ferrer, well-known actor-director, 45, and actress-wife Rosemary Clooney, 29, became parents of a little son in Santa Monica, California.

The child, however, was born prematurely at 6½ months and weighed 4 pounds only. He was named Gabriel Vincente.

In addition to being an actress, Rosemary has a gifted voice and her songs are big hits on TV and the juke box. She was last seen in "Red Garters". Rosemary seems to have been in a hurry to deliver the son.

MONEY COMES FIRST

Thana, July 18.

The proposed open-air theatre for Thana to celebrate the centenary of the 1857 war of independence is likely to cost Rs. 30,000.

The committee met on July 17 and agreed that the construction work of the theatre should start as soon as contributions reached 25% of the total cost.

Evidently the money is pouring in slowly. To be on the safe side, the work should not be taken in hand till all the money is collected. Otherwise the citizens might erect a half-finished theatre for want of funds.

ANOTHER 'PANCHALI'

Hollywood, August 5.

Four-times married Lana Turner, 37, divorced her fourth husband actor Lex Barker, 38. They have no children though Lana has a young daughter by her former husband Mr. Stephen Crane.

Only last year Lex Barker and Lana seemed madly in love with each other and Lex had presented her a diamond bracelet inscribed with some loving thoughts.

Lana Turner seems to be jealous of film actress Rita Hayworth's performance in the marriage sphere. For Rita has already discarded four husbands and is in search of a fifth one. Lana is, therefore, in good company. But will these Hollywood 'Panchalis' stop at five? The flesh is weak at any age!

FRESH THRILL

Hollywood, July 22.

To the most glamorous star, the birth of a child is a thrilling event. For that brings a sense of reality in the dream world of celluloid.

Film actress Rita Gam happily married to Thomas Henry Guinzburg, got a rosy-cheeked daughter, weighing 6 pounds and 8 ounces. It was their first born. The thrill was, therefore, first hand.

Dark-eyed and attractive, Rita is popular both on the screen and in television. She does usually sultry siren roles. Some of her pictures are: "The Thief", "Saadia", "Night People" and "Sign Of The Pagan".

EMOTIONS TO ORDER

London, July 30.

British playwright John Osborne whose play "Look Back In Anger" was staged at the World Youth Festival in Moscow recently made a trip to Moscow on this occasion but returned to London a disappointed man.

The artist in John seems to have revolted for said he; "It's so depressing. The ghastly buildings, you never see lovers holding hands." He found that there was lack of spontaneity among the Russian people and even their emotions were most orderly. John added: "Don't think I'm criticising ordinary Russians. They seem sweet, simple souls, who want just to be friendly, but they are being taken for a ride. Organized enthusiasm makes me sick in the stomach."

But what else can you expect in a 100% state-controlled show? Everything from laughing to shooting has to be done to order. There can't be any room for spontaneity in an air of repression!

'KUCHIPUDI' VETERAN DIES

Madras, July 20.

Vedantam Lakshminarayana Shastri, a noted exponent of Kuchipudi dance, died at Hyderabad on July 13 at the age of 77. His only surviving son is Jagannatha Sarma, a dance director in South Indian films.

Lakshminarayana Shastri was born at Kuchipudi, a small village in the Krishna district of Andhra. The village has given the name to this dance which may not be as well-known as Bharat Natyam but is an equally attractive form of our ancient cultural dance in Andhra. For over 60 years Shastri kept this great art alive by maintaining its purity of movements. He was the last of the old giants and to this day his roles of Satyabhama in "Bhama Kalapam" and Dadinamma in "Gollakalapam" are remembered with pride. In 1948 Shastri was awarded the title "Kuchipudi Natyakalanidhi" by the composite Madras Government.

The Kuchipudi dance, performed by film actress Suryakumari a couple of years ago at a public show, however, was only a caricatured form of this great art. Real Kuchipudi dance would take several years to perfect and our film stars rarely have the patience and penance needed to reach the acme of perfection.

A PASSING HEADACHE

New Delhi, July 20.

These days labour unions of employees are unusually active. In New Delhi when five em-

ployees of the Rivoli Cinema were recently dismissed from service, four of them went on a hunger strike.

Over a hundred members of the Cine Employees' Union, drawn from different city cinemas, immediately joined hands with these four and demonstrated outside the gates of Rivoli. Some of the gatekeepers refused to wear the new badges given to them because these humiliated them. The usual badges are made of metal.

The management, later, decided to reinstate the five employees provided they wore the prescribed badges and maintained discipline.

As long as they work satisfactorily, the employees should not be removed on flimsy excuses.

RELIEF FOR TOURING CINEMAS

Bombay, August 7.

A three-man delegation composed of Mr. B. D. Bharucha, Mr. G. D. Thakkar and Mr. I. K. Menon, met Bombay's Chief Minister Mr. Y. B. Chavan, on Tuesday, August 6, to place their grievances about the existing rules in the case of touring cinemas which hampered their growth and progress.

The memorandum included many points in which relief was wanted, such as relaxation in the closing hour of touring cinemas during fairs and festivals, supply of "approved" films free of charge, extending period of licence, etc.

Those in cities don't know the blessings of a touring cinema but in villages, the touring cinema is an occasion of delight for the villagers where it provides the sole entertainment. Let us hope Chief Minister Chavan does something substantial to lessen the hardships of these touring cinemas.

FILMLOVERS IN SINGAPORE

Singapore, August 9.

The most popular films to be exhibited all over the world are Hollywood films. They have invaded practically every nook and corner of the world and Singapore and the Federated States of Malaya are no exception.

According to the annual report of the Board of Film Censors for Singapore and Malaya, Singapore imported over 845 features in 35 mm during the year 1956.

260 films from U.S. were shown, 141 from India and 53 from the United Kingdom. The largest number, 277 was imported from Hong Kong.

First and second-run theatres showing English language films are required by law to show at least 10% of films of British origin. That accounts for the exhibition of 53 films from U.K.

THOUGHTFUL GESTURE

Madras, August 2.

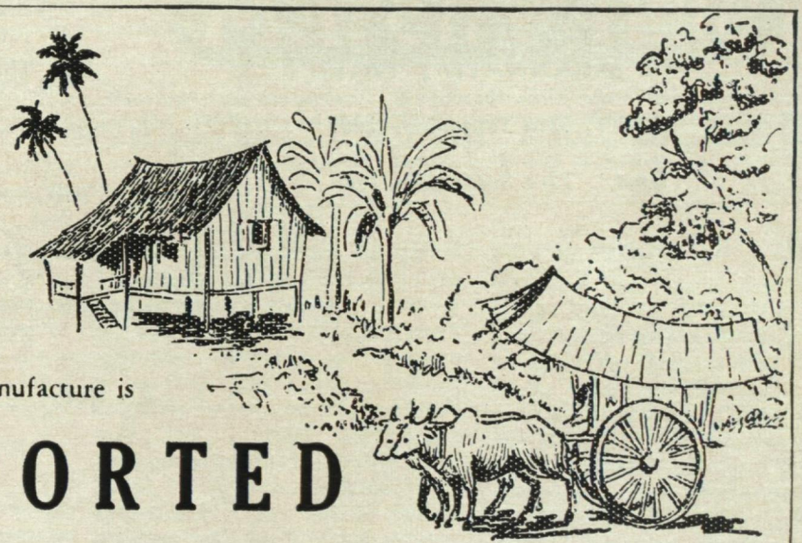
At a gala function held at Vijaya Gardens, Kodambakkam, Madras, and presided over by Chief Minister of Andhra, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, popular Telugu film actor Nageswara Rao was honoured on the occasion of his diamond jubilee of his film roles.

Mr. Nageswara Rao donated twenty-five thousand rupees to the Andhra University as a mark of gratitude to the industry that he had served loyally for so many years and hoped that the amount would help a few deserving students to pursue their university education.

Nageswara Rao was a find of the late G. Balaramaiah, in whose picture "Sri Rama Janamam", he made his debut. His powerful role in the Telugu film "Samsaram" (Producer Vasan bought the rights of this picture and made the Hindi hit "Sansar") brought Nageswara Rao more fame and recognition.

We appreciate Nageswara Rao's gesture of Rs. 25,000/- for the poor, deserving students. It is a good use of money. May other film stars who have made bigger piles than this actor-director-producer be inspired to follow his worthy example! In India, a country where illiteracy still holds sway, the cause of education needs to be helped most.

1 IN 3



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DOWRY FOR POOR

It must have been a greedy man who invented the dowry system—a system in which a man gets money for jam and a bride to boot. Even in far-away Greece, harassed parents in villages have the curse of dowry on them, as if their struggle for living was not hard enough. And the problem is acute with 70,000 and odd girls being born annually.

The State, however, has begun to work out a new social welfare scheme under the active inspiration of King Paul and Queen Frederika. Over a hundred and thirty-two citizens' committees have raised enough money for a national dowry fund. When a 1000 drachmas ($ 33.33) are collected, the committee selects a girl, 1 to 3 years, from one of the poorest families and issues a bank book in her name. By the time the girl reaches 26, the money with interest comes to $ 400.

Already 11,500 dowries have been distributed and the villagers are grateful for no more will they look upon the birth of a girl as a curse. It is a pity, however, that the dowry system is being perpetuated.

REHABILITATING PEERS

At last the impoverished peers of England have cause to be happy. For their politics will now mean not only bread but also a little butter because every day a peer makes an appearance in the House of Lords he will be paid three pounds and three shillings. In the past peers weren't paid even a farthing as their services were considered to be more of an honorary nature. There are about 650 peers, though a bare fifty attend.

One 73-year-old peer, Baron Grey de Ruthyn, who had waited for 13 long years to take his seat in the House was overjoyed at these allowances and said, "I never took my seat before because I have never been able to afford it..... I was delighted when I heard about these allowances for peers and straightaway decided to claim my seat."

Salaries of M.P's have been increased from £1000 a year to £1750 plus an attendance allowance of £280 a year while ministers, whatever their salary, will get an extra allowance of £750. All increases, except allowances of peers are subject to income-tax.

And in India we have enforced a 10% austerity cut in spite of the high cost of living! The humbug of it!

TITLES BY THE DOZEN

A little known 1600-year-old republic of 38 square miles on the Adriatic coast of Italy, for many foreigners San Marino, is a haven on earth.

The Red heads that govern San Marino have struck on a new method of cutting the foreigners' pockets and that is by selling them titles. The price for the titles, of course, varies according to their designation. A knighthood costs something between $ 240 and $ 800, a count's crest is more dear requiring at least $ 8000 to $ 24000 while a dukedom is a $ 37,000 luxury.

This title-selling business has angered Italian nobles because their titles are not recognized by the Italian Constitution. But the business still goes on merrily.

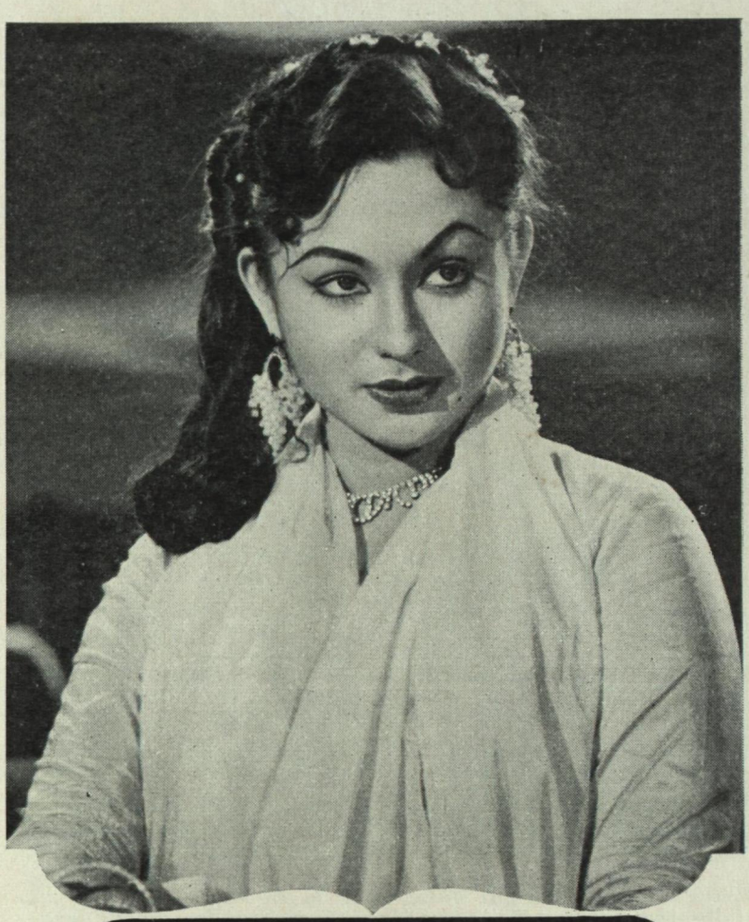
The designations, in addition, are imposing. For instance, one can choose to call himself a Baron di Valle, another the Count of Montelupe or the Duke of Peschiera.

Titles satisfy human vanities and inflate the ego. It doesn't matter whether a Count owns a hut or a castle, the title gives him the feeling of self-importance. We should send some of our title-thirsty Congressmen to San Marino so that the drain on our titles is at least lessened.

TIGHTENING DRINKING LAWS

In spite of Sweden's social and administrative measures to curb the evils of drinking in the last two years, a bottle of brannvin—the national Swedish drink—still sweeps a Swede off his feet and very often, off his head. The result is that total liquor sales have risen by a third since rationing stopped with brannvin accounting for four-fifths of the total sales.

The number of arrests for drunkenness has also increased considerably from 58,350 in 1955 to 101,148 in 1956.



Staring with suspicion! Women do that when they are not sure of the acrobatics of men. They just try to size up the man. Helen, a favourite flame of millions, plays a sparkling role in "Raja Beta", a social tale of love and laughter.

Now minors and convicted drunkards are not allowed to buy spirits while the penalty for drunken driving is a prison sentence. Swedish police have power to take blood-tests of drunken drivers on the spot and now the highest permissible concentration of alcohol in the blood is .5% as against .8% previously. In future when drivers have an alcohol concentration above .8% they will lose their driving licence as well, apart from going to jail.

We must also introduce more strict measures against drunken driving so common in these days of prohibition. The fear of losing a licence may instil some conscience in these drivers.

ONE MORE REPUBLIC

With Republics the ruling order of the day, every country —big or small—seems to be striving towards this glorious ideal.

On July 25, 1957, the Tunisian Constituent Assembly after a series of three quick, unanimous votes, proclaimed a Republic and elected Prime Minister Mr. Habib Bourguiba as the first President of the Tunisian Republic. Sidi Mohammed Al Amin, the ruling Bey, was deposed by the Tunisian Assembly.

Mr. Bourguiba said that the Bey had "played the French card and not the people's card" and added that there could be "only one sort of regime for a nation like ours—a popular Republic, in which the people themselves are responsible and pick their own rulers."

At least that is what the masses must be made to believe. Otherwise democracy cannot

When a man finds a girl sitting alone in the sun miles away from civilization he feels like being friendly but then Dev Anand makes such strange faces that Kalpana Kartik wonders whether she has met a man or a monkey in "Nau Do Gyarah", a mathematical romance.

have a smooth sailing. The old Bey can now rest in peace and prayer.

WATER FOR BATH

Oil has brought prosperity to Saudi Arabia but it is not still a happy country. Covered with dry, parched deserts, water is a rarity and that has been worrying the Saudi Arabians.

Recently after the visit of the King of Saudi Arabia to Baghdad, he got permission from the Iraq Government to utilize the waters of the Euphrates for his country. This project will cost 28 million dollars but that is a flea bite to the fabulously rich King.

Some 35 million gallons of water will be brought near Ur, purified and then sent through pipes over a distance of 450 miles to Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia.

To Saudi Arabians at least water has to be bought with oil. They can now safely forego their traditional juma-juma bath and replace it by a daily bath with water flowing by the gallons!

"WASHING" PROCESS

For the aristocratic nobles and dukes of England, the present day heavy taxes and death duties have made life well nigh impossible. Over 80 of the well-known estates of these lords have passed into the hands of the National Trust, a private non-profit body started in 1895 to preserve places of historical or artistic interest "for the benefit and access of the people". The latest estate donated to the Trust is the Arundel Castle for which a special bill was passed in the House of Commons.

Some of the lords, however, cling to their estates. For instance, Longleat, the sixteenth century family residence of the Marquess of Bath still attracts about 130,000 visitors fetching annually $44,000 a year by way of admission. The actual maintenance of the estate cost $56,000 and the Marquis gets this off in his income tax.

The thirteenth Duke of Bedford has converted his palatial Woburn Abbey into a sort of an entertainment place with an animal zoo, a restaurant, a playground for children, juke box and has now invited the nudists there for the 1958 World Nudists' Congress at the usual 35-cent admission fee.

The days of luxury have been left far behind with everyone pursuing the popular socialistic pattern of society. As the Marquess of Bath put it so aptly, "dukes, marquesses, earls and so on will be washed up within three generations."

STUDENT SCREENING

Development of one's individuality is unknown in the Communistic cult for this Marxian philosophy seeks to flatten out one and all into utterly slavish, unthinking automatons so that power vested in a few is held intact and enjoyed as long as possible.

The indoctrination process begins at the toddling stage and is gradually increased at the University stage. It is on this threshold that students are thirsting for knowledge and it is precisely here that the Chinese Communist Party is going to control dissident university students by a new system of screening.

From now onwards every student who graduates must also undergo an examination for a certificate of "political reliability". If a student graduates but fails to get the 'political reliability' certificate, he is doomed to a term of "political inspection." Those students who have "thought and action" in opposition to Communism will be allowed to work in a minor capacity and receive bare living wages. Students found guilty of "counter-revolutionary crimes" may be sent to "labour reform" or "labour training camps."

After this repression one might well ask: Is life worth living under these circumstances? And is there no difference between students and slaves?

FRIGHTENING SHADOWS

Americans often laugh at Indians and wonder why casteism, untouchability, etc. still exist in India. But the events that are happening under the handy cloak of democracy in America are even more shocking.

On July 29, 1957, racial rioting, described as one of the worst in recent years, broke out in south Chicago between whites and Negroes. The riots first began in Calumet Park in which 25 people were injured. In a fit of mad fury whites stoned and burned a dozen cars driven by Negroes. Some Negro policemen were pelted with stones.

The police had to fire many warning shots to break up the crowds.

The black-and-white casteism of America seems to be growing worse. Its intensity is casting new and frightful shadows on the racial horizon. Such exhibitions of racial hatred dilute democracy unnecessarily.

GOLF FOR ALL

The Negro hatred existing in the southern states of U.S. is buried in long, historical roots and it seems almost impossible to extricate it from this mess.

In Florida, Federal Judge Joseph P. Lieb gave a ruling recently that the municipally-owned golf course must be opened to Negroes. Immediately the Fort Lauderdale City Commission voted to sell the golf course for half its value rather than let it be used by Negroes. The course was finally sold for 5,62,400 dollars to the Fort Lauderdale Men's Golf Association.

The Mayor of Lauderdale voted against the sale calling it "a step backward in solving our problems—especially our racial problems."

The whites probably don't fancy polluting even their golf course!

COMPULSORY SEGREGATION

The Group Areas Act promulgated by the Nationalist Government of South Africa is being pursued callously without any regard to the suffering of the non-white population. And on August 2, 1957, things started moving.

In Johannesburg alone some 9000 Indians, 7000 Chinese, 7500 coloureds and 2000 Malays are affected. They have been uprooted from their homes and their businesses. In these areas Indians have invested millions of pounds and the Group Areas

Development Board has made valuations which clearly show that the whole idea is to ruin these people.

Some Indians are being coerced to move into Lenasia, 20 miles from Johannesburg. Schools for Indian children in Johannesburg have been closed and some youngsters have to cover 6 to 19 miles by train to reach Lenasia, which area is mostly veld.

Since the South African Government follows the apartheid policy so openly, the only alternative for the non-whites is to leave Africa for good, whatever be the price in sweat, tears and money.

EGYPTIAN 'EVES'

For the first time in the Parliamentary history of Egypt, two women members — Miss Rawya Attiya of Cairo and Mrs. Amina Shoukri of Alexandria— got elected to Parliament during the recent general elections.

Rawya and Amina will now lend some sex-appeal to the otherwise male National Assembly of 343 members.

Egyptian women are certainly getting more and more ambitious, throwing their centuries-old purdah to the winds. But it might probably take another twenty years before Nasser collects an impressive crowd of women round him and thus competes with Pandit Nehru. Whether women make good politicians or not, they seem to make life livelier with their chatter.

RULING SEX?

It is more than a woman's world in Soviet Russia for the fat, over-developed Soviet women with ruddy cheeks have begun to boss and invade the different strata of political and social life.

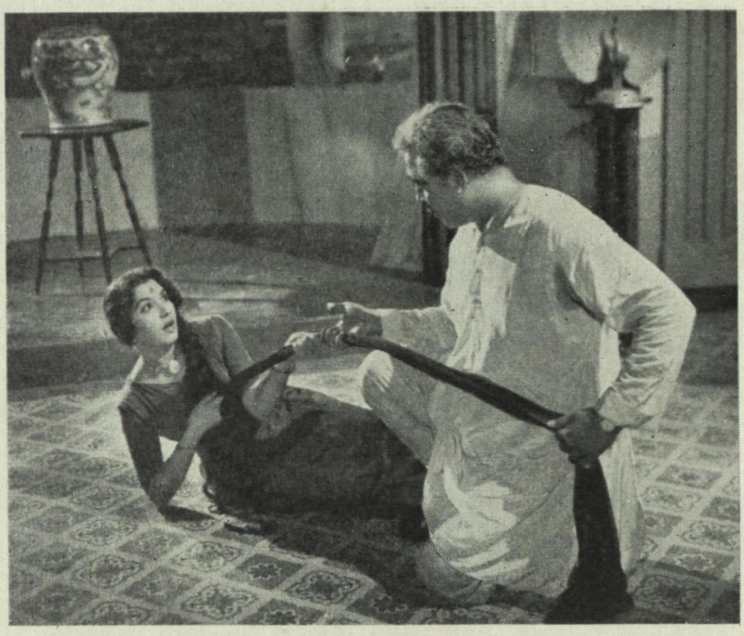
To prove the equality of sexes, the Soviet males have actually accepted 4 women as members in their 15-member presidium. There are 348 women M.P.'s in the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet. Some 103 women are deputy Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers in the Soviet Government and in the Governments of the 15 union republics.

In the sphere of science you find that 3|8ths of the Soviet scientists are women, while 3|4 of the doctors and 9|10ths of the general medical personnel are women. And they all get maternity leave for 112 days with pay.

Our white-caps too are anxious to follow Soviet Russia, the only pity is that the pressure of sex equality is turning the traditional Indian home into a desert.

BEGUM-MAULANA TUG

The more enlightened amongst the women of Pakistan had put up a brave fight recently against the evils of polygamy, freely sanctioned under the conventional Islamic law. There were quite a few women members too on the board of Marriage and Family Laws Commission. This Commission last year recommended that a person wanting to marry a second time should first get the sanction of a special court. This sanction would be given only under exceptional circumstances. One Maulana, however, put in a strong dissenting note while other Maulanas outside the Commission raised the usual hue and cry about Islam being in danger. Result: The Government of Pakistan has decided to scrap the Commission's recommendations.



Chitra doesn't yet seem to know what a rape is. She probably thinks that it is all-in wrestling with the audience out of sight. K. N. Singh feels that such innocence deserves to be punished in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a sensational theme produced by Mehtab Films Ltd.

Another new Islamic Laws Commission will be formed to settle the much-vexed and ticklish problem of polygamy. It is said that there will be no women members on this Commission.

Let us see if the Pakistani 'Eves' will rest quiet. They have the fire and the grit. Will they be dominated by the orthodox Maulanas?

A MARRIAGE FIEND

Some men get fed up with one marriage while quite a few believe in single blessedness. But as a rule, men who have failed in their marriages, love to experiment with more. Perhaps that explains the anxiety of Tengku Mohammed Arissin Bin Ahmed, the 63-year-old businessman of Malaya, to marry for the 70th time.

Tengku first married at the age of 16 and has been marrying ever since though he has never had more than four wives at a time to be within the Islamic law. On one occasion he married three girls in one night, one of whom Khatija is still living.

This old 'Romeo' seems to be a marriage-fiend. Who knows he might score a century by marrying for the 100th time if he lives long enough! Tengku, the impatient Malayan, can't even wait till he reaches paradise, promised to every Muslim after death—the paradise where tantalizing 'houris' exist to delight sinners from earth.

ISLAMIC JUSTICE

In these days when death can be wooed in double quick time through atom and hydrogen bombs or through guns and revolvers, the tragic story of a Yemeni Muslim couple who sought death through stoning does sound strange.

The two pilgrim lovers during a pilgrimage to Mecca confessed their adultery before a judge. The judge, who gave his judgement based on the Shariat laws, naturally sentenced the couple to be stoned to death.

So in accordance with Islamic law, after the Friday prayers, the judge himself threw the first stone at the lovers. The rest of the stoning job was then executed by a Saudi Arabian Army squad. The stones killed the couple and the law was thus taken to its final conclusion.

Whether this is the right way of dispensing justice is for the followers of Islam to decide.

VODKA LOVERS

It is not only the Soviets who are addicted to vodka which they are known to drink like water. Chubby-faced Nikita Khrushchev is a standing poster of vodka. The Poles can compete equally well with the Soviets in this respect for, drunkenness is on the increase in Poland.

The consumption of 100% alcohol has gone up considerably. It is estimated that 1957 is likely to be a record year for Poland's alcohol consumption. Poland would have drunk by the end of this year 80 million litres of 100% alcohol or 160 million litres of vodka.

The gymnastics of Communism need all this vodka and more perhaps. How else can one face the firing squad with a smile?

THE PARISIAN'S HEADACHE

Very rarely is one able to trace things once lost. God alone knows into whose pockets these things disappear, very much like the crores of rupees that lose themselves in smoke with Congress contractors.

But in Paris, France, the mystery of lost property is brought home by an efficient Drain Squad who cover about 1200 miles of the city's sewers connected to street drains. With the help of lamps and search tools, these men in the Drain Squad are able to get at the lost objects.

Any Parisian who loses his wallet, car keys or flat keys, can usually get them back within an hour if he dials the Drain Squad at DID 16-19.

Lost property recovered from the drains includes cameras, umbrellas, handbags, jewels, earrings, lighters, spectacles and even a policemen's pistol.

The Drain Squad thus does useful work to counteract the inherent danger in Parisian drain holes which are 3-feet-long slits in the sides of the curbstones. But why can't the drain holes be renovated?

JUVENILE CRIME

With America as its pattern for guidance and inspiration, it is not surprising that Japan has begun to harvest an increasingly big crop of juvenile crime, described by one Tokyo newspaper as a "frightening" social problem.

From a mere 9897 figure of 1924 the number of juvenile crimes increased to 33,187 in 1942, 45,526 in 1947 to 200,000 in 1955. And out of 200,000, 107,347 sadly enough were criminal cases involving such offences as rape, intimidation, robbery with violence and pilfering. The peak of juvenile crime, however, was reached in 1952.

Sociologists trace juvenile delinquency to the aftermath of the war, lack of parental control, tensions and conflicts within families. Judge Soichi Morita, head of the Family Bureau of the Supreme Court says, "The Japanese people are seeking a new way of life. It is a restless search, bringing with it a host of new troubles".

Whatever the causes, it is high time the Japanese brought up their little ones to become better members of society. The Japanese have many admirable qualities and a return to the old and simpler way of life will give them more rewards, rather than a blind aping of the Americans.

SPREADING SLAVERY

It is hard to believe that slavery, the worst form of human subjugation, still exists in different corners of the world, outside the pale of U.N. influence. The inherent instinct of man, however, is to dominate over man, forgetting completely that the human spirit always soars and strives for freedom.

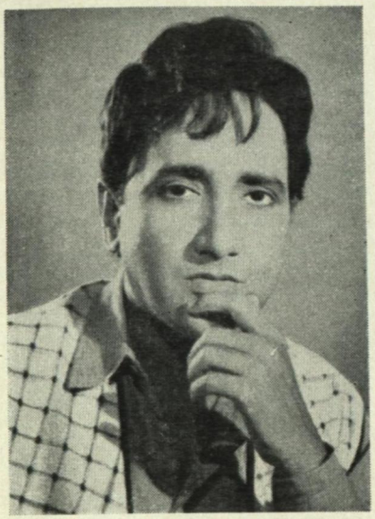
The Saudi Arabians are not the only ones guilty of practising slavery. The South American countries, according to Mr. C. W. Greenidge, honorary director of the Anti-slavery Society, also indulge in this hateful form of domination. For in Ecuador, Peru and to a lesser extent in Bolivia, there are about 8 million American Indians living as slaves on the estates of big landowners.

In Japan over 20,000 persons were sold as slaves last year out of which at least 80% were going to feed the prostitution trade. In Lybia, "dangerous" criminals were quickly disposed of as slaves.

And all these figures are without counting the millions of slaves in Communist countries. Under Communism these unfortunate slaves have no hope of deliverance.

GREEDY APPETITES

With every century the average American seems to be grow-



To be or not to be? To marry or not to marry? When a man remains a widower too long in the midst of a colourful world, he wonders—and wonders. Bharat Bhushan exercises his mind rather vigorously after seeing Madhubala in "Gateway Of India", a social thriller seriously produced and directed by Om Prakash.

ing taller and bigger. The nation, as such, suffers from overeating and why not when there is plenty to go round and enough money to buy not only the necessities but the luxuries of life?

But America's wrong eating habits are likely to prove harmful in the long run because according to an estimate made by Don Grimes, president of the Independent Grocers Alliances, in the year 2957, the average American male will weigh 26 stones, and will be more than 9 feet tall if the present eating habits continue.

Even the average American woman is likely to compete with the male in matter of weight and height. In 1870, the female waistline was 24 7/8 of an inch, today it is 25¼ inch.

Anyway American grocers need not worry. Their profits are ensured with such fond-of-eating people, who evidently believe in living to eat and not eating to live.

BIGGER THAN HOOVER

The Americans always talk with great pride about their gigantic Hoover Dam, at present the world's biggest artificial lake. But its fame will soon be overshadowed by the Kariba Dam on the River Zambesi, about 240 miles from Salisbury in Rhodesia, Africa.

The Kariba Dam, considered to be one of the world's biggest hydro-electric projects, is already half-way through and when completed its output of annual energy estimated at 8,810,000,000 Kwh. will make it the largest station in the world.

The Kariba Dam will cost £80,000,000 and is meant to supply hydro-electric power to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The total water storage capacity of the Kariba Dam will be 130,000,000 acre-feet, four times more than the capacity of the Hoover Dam.

India can also boast of quite a few hydro-electric projects like the notorious Bhakra Nangal, sleepy Hirakud, etc. They have swallowed crores of rupees but not helped the poor people a wee bit.

OXYGEN SUPPLIER

The World Bank appears to be running successfully. Quite often it comes to the rescue of countries with meagre financial resources like India. In its yearly report the Bank showed a net income of 36 million dollars (about £12,857,000) for the fiscal year ended on June 30, 1957 as compared with 29 million dollars (about £10,357,000) for the previous year.

Centuries ago
an Indian monk
discovered
the goodness of TEA
In 1955, a body of scientific experts in the U.S.A.—the Biological Sciences Foundation—recorded that tea helped to relieve fatigue.
The ability of tea to drive tiredness away is said to have been discovered centuries ago by an Indian monk—Daruma—who left India sometime in 520 A.D. to preach Buddhism in China and Japan.
Today, in millions of homes tea has become not only part of the daily drinking habit of the family; but a symbol of hospitality. Over a cup of tea you can discuss anything and forget your worries.
I am Tea – the symbol of friendship
TEA BOARD INDIA
PST 188

The comedians have always to beg for favours because they easily accept the tyrannies of beauty. Ragini and Mukri compete with each other in monkey-play in "Amaradeepam", a romantic tale produced by Sivaji Productions.

Fifteen countries benefited from the World Bank for it gave 20 loans worth 388 million dollars in the fiscal year and its gross total loan commitments on June 30, 1957, amounted to 3108 million dollars.

The World Bank has 60 members with a total subscribed capital of 9268 million dollars on June 30, 1957.

PUSHING NATURE

To those in India enjoying the bounties of a rain-drenched monsoon, it would be hard to enthuse over the success of artificial rain. But in some of the drought-ridden parts of Australia, as in the wheat-growing areas of Darling Downs district of Queensland, artificial rain is a blessing to the farmer and the man who must be blessed is Dr. Edward George Bowen, chief of the Radiophysics Division of the Australian Government's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

After several experiments over some years, Edward has perfected the art of seeding clouds with the help of aeroplanes. The old-fashioned way was that of spraying silver iodide into the air from ground generators. But Dr. Bowen's method of seeding by aeroplane is infinitely superior. And its efficacy was seen recently in the wheat fields of Darling Downs where a drought nearly killed the crop.

To put it in Dr. Bowen's own words, "There's no doubt that we are starting to push nature around a bit."

HYPNOTIC SPELL

Moonstruck poets through ages have sung of the glories of love and described it as the supreme fulfilment of life. Has it not been said so eloquently by Marcus Cato: "As for the lover, his soul dwells in the body of another."

But now comes Dr. S. J. Van Pelt, president of the British Society of Medical Hypnosis, who boils down all love to a form of hypnosis. His view is that the girl who charms her boy friend into falling in love is at best hypnotizing him. After marriage, however, the hypnotic spell is broken. This Dr. Pelt says accounts for many broken marriages, particularly amongst film stars.

In hypnosis, of course, there is no chance for one soul to "dwell in the body of another". It is just a short-lived magic spell.

HUMOUR OR TRAGEDY

For ages we have believed that humour in a person indicates a sense of well-being, and strength and superiority in the face of odds. But psychiatrist Dr. Martin Grotjahn of Beverly Hills, California, has something different to say about humour. He has backed his conclusions with ten years of solid research in his new book "Beyond Laughter."

This is how Dr. Martin Grotjahn explains the tendency of Americans to laugh: "Americans laugh more than any other people, yet they are the most severely repressed of all. So what do we do with our subconscious hostility? We use laughter as a breakthrough from these repressed aggressions".

Quite a few TV and screen comedians do have serious psychological problems of their own and the average comic entertainer usually has "a disturbed personality."

But the real humour devoid of any complexes is healthy and a "a real sign of maturity." Indians seem to be having a fine sense of humour considering their ability to laugh on a hungry stomach.

BACCHUS ZINDABAD

More than 250 years have passed since the English poet John Dryden glorified Bacchus in his famous ode "Alexander's Feast" thus: "Bacchus ever fair and young, Drinking joys did first ordain; Bacchus' blessings are a treasure, Drinking is the soldier's pleasure: Rich the treasure, Sweet the pleasure, Sweet is pleasure after pain."

In 1957 three Italian doctors, Cavalieri, Gigna and Quarti, tell us that moderate drinking of wine is a good cure for arteriosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) in old age. These doctors based their theory after a study of thousands of old persons in Milan hospitals.

But what use is Bacchus to our dry white-capped Congressmen? Alas! The arteries of these super-human gods react better to flattery and hollow words, not sweet delicious wine!

REJUVENATORS

To thousands old age is a nightmare in which pain and suffering join hands to bring about the ultimate destruction of the body. But gerontologists have an optimistic outlook and their experiments are slowly proving that certain drugs and serums not only keep old age miles away but actually rejuvenate the body.

At the fourth Congress of the International Association of Gerontology held in Merano, Italy, Professor A. Aslan, a Bucharest physician, claimed the virtues of Novocain in making the aged "biologically younger" after a series of intramuscular shots of this drug on 4900 old people. Novocain acted on the internal glands, hair, nails, bones, heart and blood system.

Professor S. Schmidt of Voerden, Westphalia, reported success with "Cytotoxic serum" developed by the Russian-born "rejuvenator" the late Dr. Alexander Bogomoletz.

We should try this serum on some of our aged Cabinet ministers. That might infuse sense into them if nothing else.

WEAK-HEARTED

A unique case in medical history is that of 6-year-old Maria Taffolon of Melbourne who "died" twice in the period of six days. Both the times her heart had to be massaged by the surgeons. This is the first time that a patient has survived two heart stoppages. On the second occasion Maria's heart had stopped for 25 minutes.

Our heroes in the Indian film industry are a million times tougher. They "die" every time they see a pretty girl and their heart stoppages cannot be even counted.

FIRST AID

Accidents are common enough in every day life but immediate attention to the victims saves half the tragedy. Mrs. Lucretia Galbraith, a 50-year-old bookkeeper of San Francisco, had her scalp torn from her head when her lovely, long hair got caught in a boat's propellor shaft.

She was rushed to the hospital in an ambulance and the surgeons stitched the scalp on to Mrs. Galbraith's head. Mrs. Galbraith was progressing satisfactorily.

In India the woman would have died of sheer bleeding, let alone anyone calling for the scalp and stitching it in place.

SEALED EXISTENCE

Interesting experiments are being conducted at the National Institute of Health, Bethesda, U.S., because the intricate science of metabolism is puzzling the Bethesda scientists.

The first volunteer for this purpose, 20-year-old Jerry Duerksen, was dressed up in a plastic space helmet with aluminium frame and made to live for 24 hours in a specially sealed chamber fitted with most of the home comforts.

It was found that Duerksen used quite a lot of energy in just turning and rolling in bed. He also utilized more than the expected energy in brushing teeth.

After more tests on human guinea pigs these scientists will be able to give us a clearer picture of the body's metabolic processes.

SALTY TO SWEET

A British firm has developed a new type of distilling plant for distilling pure drinking water from the sea.

Many tests were first conducted under industrial operating conditions on large-size test rigs using sea-water. The plant can be run continuously without being opened for cleaning and without loss of output due to scaling.

The firm has made designs for outputs up to 1,000,000 gallons per day in one day which are available now.

DEAF-BLIND DEVICE

The deaf and the blind may be neglected members of society in India but elsewhere they get all the attention they need because of their physical handicaps. And they have every reason to be happy because two scientists have developed a new electronic device to substitute for the telephone. This device was demonstrated for the first time in America recently and it worked beautifully bringing a joyous smile on the deaf-and-the-blind men at either end operating it.

The gadget is the size of a shoe box and contains a hole over which the deaf-blind listener can place his hand. The message in Braille is heard against the "hearer's" index finger. The person then replies through the mouthpiece of the telephone.

HEAVY WATER PLANT

Farbwerke Hoechst have begun to construct West Germany's first plant for producing heavy water near Frankfurt.

Heavy water is used in atomic reactors and it differs from ordinary water in that its molecule contains an extra atom of hydrogen. The process of Farbwerke is also said to be cheaper than any of the ones previously used.

MYSTERY OF GORDUS

A team of U.S. archaeologists headed by Professor Rodney S. Young of the University of Pennsylvania excavated a 2600-year-old tomb of a king at Gordium in Turkey.

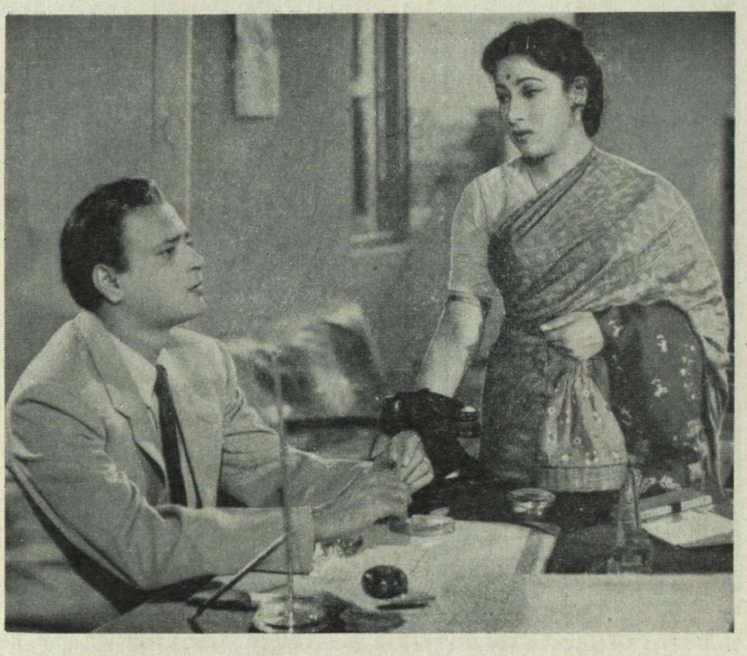
The King Gordus was found wrapped in 12 layers of linen which disintegrated as soon as they were touched. He lay on a four-poster bed made specially for the grave.

Gordus might help these excavators to understand better the Greek-Macedonian civilization of ancient times.

JUTE HYBRIDS

Crossing cultivated "bhendi" plants with different varieties of wild bhendi as well as with 'ambadi' the usual jute plant, Dr. M. A. Chaudhary, director of the Pruthivi Trust, has been able to get a happy combination of hybrids where the fibres of the new plants have more strength than the usual jute and also a shorter maturity period than the jute plant.

More research on these hybrids might help us to solve our jute problem as India depends on East Pakistan for her supply of raw jute.



It is only in motion pictures that a smart and attractive girl wants a job as a personal secretary. In real life the cats one gets have eczemas from many old dogs. Look at Abhi Bhattacharya looking like a sadhu in penance with Mala Sinha standing like Rambha before him in "Aparadhi Kaun", a social theme produced by Bimal Roy Productions.

A FOSSIL SHARK

Spotting a 'shark' in real life is a thrilling pastime because it brings home to you the truth that these 'sharks' are more dangerous than the ones in the sea. They swallow you wholesale without even a warning.

The palaeo-zoologist, however, is more than happy if he can set his eyes on a fossil shark. One such impressive fossil shark, found in the inland State of Indiana, has been announced by the Chicago Natural History Museum.

How did this fossil shark get here? According to the palaeo-zoologists, the State of Indiana was covered by an ocean 250 million years ago. This is said to be the first well-preserved fossil shark from the coal age.

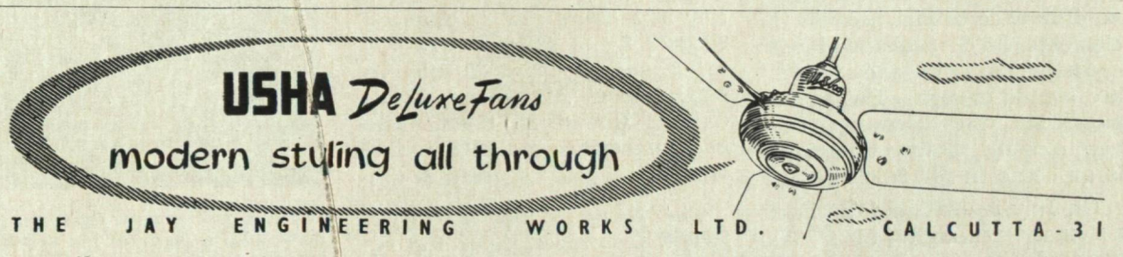
This fossil shark, we are sure, will admit of quicker study than the human shark.

ATOMIC ROCKET

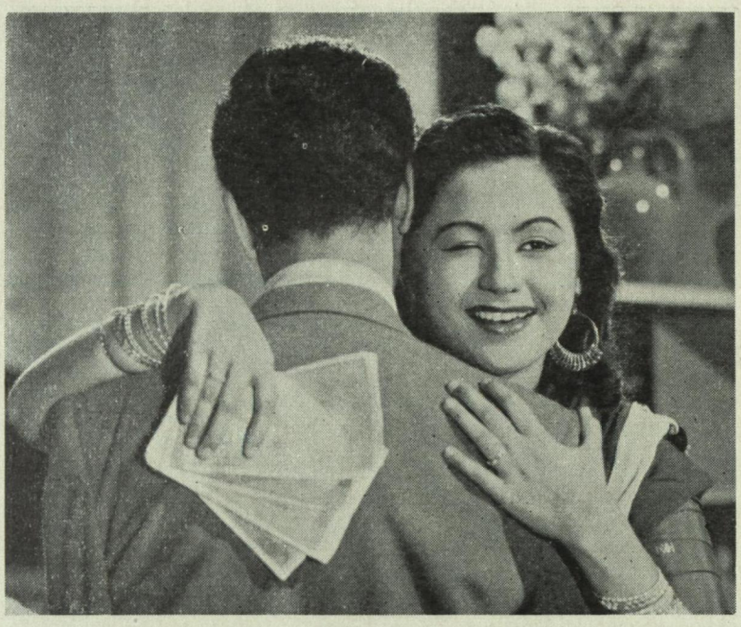
Every day life is becoming more and more dangerous for ordinary folks with human brains inventing inhuman weapons capable of mass destruction. But in this mad race for armaments no one stops to think.

Looked at from this angle, July 19, 1957, turned out to be a red letter day for rocky Nevada when the U.S. Air Defence Command's first air-to-air atomic rocket was fired from the plane over the desert. The nuclear rocket showed itself as a brilliant fireball in the target area at an altitude of more than 15.000 feet, setting up a smoke of pink cloud.

The power of this rocket was described as "well below nominal". A nominal bomb is rated as the energy equivalent of 20,000 tons of TNT.



Agents : M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.



That is what modern young men deserve—a stab in the back with their own currency notes. That back belongs to Moti Sagar but the winking eye is the property of Helen—not of Troy but of Byculla. They have a thrilling time in "Raja Beta", a social romance.

ATOMS FOR PEACE

The U.S. and the U.S.S.R. keep growling over their deadly atomic acquisitions. It does help one to instil fear into the other but the fearful atom can also be utilized for peaceful purposes if only these nations desire it.

On July 29, 1957, the 80-nation International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) came into existence. President Eisenhower signed a pact enrolling the U.S. Britain and the Soviet Union have already ratified it along with 19 other nations.

The IAEA was born out of President Eisenhower's "Atoms for peace proposals". U.S. can now enter into agreements with the Agency and make available Uranium—235 for peaceful uses to other countries.

BIRTH OF NOBELIUM

The layman is always baffled with the mystery of the atom. One element more or less makes no difference to him because the elements he is acquainted with —earth, air, fire and water— are simple enough. But to the physicists the discovery of a new element, however unstable, is an occasion for rejoicing.

On July 9, 1957, a joint international research team announced the discovery of element 102—the tenth and newest synthetic element of the atomic age—and called it Nobelium after the Nobel Institute in Stockholm.

Nobelium was made by bombarding Curium, synthetic element 96, with positively charged carbon ions accelerated in the Nobel Institute's cyclotron. Nobelium is unstable having a life of 10-12 minutes. It loses half its radio-activity in that period giving out alpha particles consisting of two protons and two neutrons.

Nobelium appears to have much in common with the proverbially fickle-minded woman who changes her mind ten times in ten minutes.

SUPERSONIC FLYER

U.S. Marine Corps Major John H. Glenn Jr., 36, created a new record in supersonic speed when he flew the Navy F8U-1 Crusader jet from Long Beach, California to New York city in 3 hours and 23 minutes. Glenn's flying average was 726 m.p.h. and he ended 21 minutes better than Air Force Lieut. Colonel Robert R. Scott who had established the 1955 record of 3 hours and 54 minutes.

The Navy jet descended to 25,000 feet three times for refuelling and finally landed at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn with 40 gallons, "enough to circle the field once".

Major Glenn's feat brought him his fourth Distinguished Flying Cross. Supersonic speed seems to be the keynote of the present era.

VERTICAL EXIT

The X-13 Vertijet—the jet aeroplane which takes off and lands vertically—made its first spectacular public flight on July 28 at Washington, U.S.

This "F-105 Thunderchief" is believed to be the world's most powerful supersonic fighter-bomber and has been particularly constructed to take off or land in such places where there are no runaways.

Some day man's inventive brain might find out a new technique whereby men on their last journey can leave the world in a vertical fashion instead of the conventional horizontal pose. That way one can reach the heavens with supersonic speed.

ATOMIC SHIP

Since the launching of the atomic-powered submarine "Nautilus" dreams about an atomic-powered merchant ship are taking a concrete shape.

If the atomic scientists' calculations go right, the atomic-powered merchant ship should be at sea by 1960. It will be able to cover a distance of 330,000 miles without refuelling and that is its advantage.

The ship will carry both cargo and passengers. The length of the vessel will be 857 feet with a beam of 78 feet and a draft of 29½ feet.

The cost of the ship will be rather high but that is no problem to the U.S. with its overflowing dollars.

VISITING THE MOON

The moon, cool and inviting, often makes lovers sigh. In their dreams they may even visit it for it costs them nothing. For dreams are wafted on the wings of love. But a trip in reality to the moon and back is no joke.

Dr. L. R. Shepherd of Britain's Atomic Energy Research Establishment tells us that this unique event must await radical new developments in the propulsion field. A human crew would require a multi-stage rocket of 100,000 tons, costing at least 1000 million sterling, using present fuels. But a rocket of a few hundred tons minus human crew could take a manned satellite into space and one of similar size could land scientific instruments on the moon.

If it is as costly and troublesome as all this, we would any day vote for visiting the moon in a dream. That is a far more paying proposition.

When a young man chases a beautiful school teacher, he shouldn't do it with a cigar in his mouth. The very smell of the weed might give her nausea, especially if it is from Burma. Agha is shocked at Raj Kapoor's technique of winning Meena Kumari in "Sharda", a thrilling tale of schoolroom love.

OUR REVIEW

"Naya Zamana", Picture To Be Avoided

Unconvincing Tale Poorly Produced

Link Films' "Naya Zamana" is probably intended to prove that education for women is a vital necessity of the day. But all that the picture actually succeeds in proving is that celluloid is still being badly wasted in the Indian film industry.

Championship of education for women is none-too-revolutionary an idea any more and the way this theme is presented in "Naya Zamana" is neither intelligent nor convincing. Unimaginatively produced and incompetently directed the picture presents a tale which has some good intentions but too many dull, trite and unconvincing moments. Besides bristling with unlikely characters and improbable situations, the story moves at so sluggish a pace that one often wonders if it wants to reach any particular destination at all. On the whole the picture emerges as a profoundly uninteresting and unconvincing affair.

TALE OF TWO WIDOWS

The story deals with a happy young couple in Lucknow, Kishore and Shanta, who, the story takes a lot of time to suggest, are still suffering from a sort of honeymoon hangover. While the couple keep on sniffing and caressing each other, Shanta receives a letter from an old friend of hers, Bimla, informing her that she had become a widow and an orphan and that she saw no future for herself except suicide. Shanta decides to provide shelter for the unfortunate woman in her own home and persuades her husband to consent to the idea.

Soon after the young widow lands in the couple's home, Kishore, who works in some office, gets orders to proceed immediately to Africa on business. As Kishore goes away to Africa for a month, Shanta, accompanied by Bimla, goes to Benares to live with her widowed old father and her little brother Pramod. But the little family hardly spends a few happy days together when news is received that the ship carrying Kishore to Africa had sunk and that Kishore had died. After the mourning is over, Din Dayal, Shanta's father, probably afraid that his daughter being young and educated might do something unconventional like hoping for a second love in life, elicits a promise from her that she will ever conduct herself properly and do nothing that will bring a blot on the family reputation.

But hardly does the echo of his daughter's promise die than we see the same Din Dayal, a respectable grey-haired man so vigilant about family reputation, all too readily and suddenly getting a late attack of vice in life. Under the evil inspiration of a crude, loud and parasitical friend, Bankelal, the aged Din Dayal takes to visting bars, brothels, and again under the inspiration of Banke and partly of alcohol, proposes marriage to Bimla, his daughter's widowed friend. Bimla is at first appalled at the suggestion but she fails to resist the old man's pressure and is soon united in wedlock with him.

Shanta learns only after the ceremony is over that her friend Bimla has become her stepmother but before she can give vent to her sense of shock, her old father, obviously writhing under impatient passions of rejuvenation, starts turning an unnecessarily angry eye on her and her little brother. With Din Dayal insistently feeling like a bridegroom all the time, the cup of Shanta's and Promod's misery soon becomes full and the little boy dies after receiving a beating from his father. Shanta, who had been baselessly accused of receiving love letters from a colleague of her husband's and beaten with a stick for that by Din Dayal takes the warm corpse of her brother in her arms and rushes to the river into which she flings the corpse and then follows it herself.

A mother's wail for her missing son! It is the world's most heartrending cry which only God hears. Man has no ears for a mother's wail in this world of false values. Nargis, our superb artiste, gives an unforgettable performance in "Mother India", India's colourful romance of the soil produced in colour by Mehboob.

Shanta, however, is rescued from the river and finds herself in the custody of a brothel-proprietess who tries hard to initiate her into the old profession. Shanta manages to break loose from her clutches and after some more ugly experiences including an attempted rape by a priest she finally finds shelter with a decent and educated couple who readily agree to help her in realising her ambition of becoming a judge. With the kindly couple's help Shanta prosecutes higher studies, passes some examinations and is soon placed on a magistrate's chair.

By this time, however, Din Dayal has discovered Bankelal to be a vile villain and murdered him in daylight in a public square. And as can be expected in a film, the father is soon brought as an accused before his magistrate daughter who, after hearing a discourse from him on the subject of duty above sentiment, commits the case to sessions where it is presumed he will receive the maximum punishment. It all ends with Shanta reuniting with her husband Kishore who, the story maintains, was only missing and not dead after all, and reconciling with the repentant Bimla.

As said before, the story as presented is neither convincing nor interesting. And though the later sequences showing Shanta grappling with books and some scattered dialogue pieces suggest female education to be the theme of the picture, the picture misses by miles to drive the theme home.

With the moon so dangerously near, a woman cannot help but be pensive. Kalpana Kartik is busy with the mathematics of love in "Nau Do Gyarah", a romantic tale.

POOR ALL ROUND

The production values are unimpressive. Sets fail to look realistic. The photography is generally undistinguished. The sound recording is erratic. The dialogue is dull and the music is more so. The direction is pedestrian.

From the players, Mala Sinha as Shanta does well enough in a role that is written badly enough. In the magistrate's chair, however, she only looks a pretty impostor. Veena as the widow Bimla is unimpressive. Badri Prasad as Din Dayal looks quite handicapped due to erratic direction and a rather absurd role. Gope as Bankelal attacks his unconvincing role with zeal. Leela Misra as Banke's wife is another one who suffers due to crude characterization. Pradeep Kumar, as a guest artiste, makes brief appearances in the role of Kishore and fails to inspire.

In short, "Naya Zamana" is an utterly dull and unconvincing affair. It is a picture which deserves to be avoided by picturegoers and exhibitors.

NAYA ZAMANA

Producers:	Link Films
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	Pandit Girish
Screenplay & Dialogue:	Lekhraj Bhakhri
Lyrics:	Prem Dhawan, Bharat Vyas
Music:	Kanu Ghosh
Photography:	Ranjodh Thakur
Sound:	Mistry
Cast:	Mala Sinha, Veena, Gope, Badri Prasad, Leela Misra, Daisy Irani and guest artiste Pradeep Kumar
Released At:	Eros, Bombay
Date of Release:	2nd August 1957

Directed By:
LEKHRAJ BHAKHRI

OUR REVIEW

"Hum Panchhi Ek Dal Ke", Instructive And Entertaining

Children's Picture That Attracts Adults Too

AVM's "Hum Panchhi Ek Dal Ke" is a handsomely mounted, pleasantly produced film with a cast which is crowded with juveniles and has a narrative woven round juvenile activities. It shows a bunch of goody-goody boys from a school going on a long excursion during which they combine recreation with constructive social work and reveal practically all the good qualities that are prescribed for them in the children's books of manners and morals, and then returning home to plan and perform an annual school drama of high sentiments with higher enthusiasm and to reveal still more virtue.

With the picture dripping idealism and flaunting white-caps on its juvenile characters' heads and framed photographs of national leaders in their homes, and with its juveniles propagating social work and dignity of labour and putting in a pitch for peace and international brotherhood, it is not difficult to see what the picture is aiming at. It is aiming at the Prime Minister's Gold Medal for the Best Children's Film of the year. Since no other children's film produced in India has yet come our way we do not see how the Prime Minister's Medal can escape "Hum Panchhi Ek Dal Ke".

Children's film is a very recent, highly specialized and still none-too-well defined art but it is one that deserves to be practised by many and quickly too if we want our children to see films and yet keep away from the dubious influences of life. As an early example of the art in India "Hum Panchhi" deserves a pat on the back if not a panegyric. It may be smelling a bit unduly of crudity and cloying idealization and it may at times even appear as more a childish film than a children's film but it is a well-produced, well-meaning and healthily entertaining film and a promising, pioneering step in the direction of what is termed as children's film movement.

JUVENILES ON MARCH

The picture has little by way of a story and that little deals with Rajan, the juvenile son of Raisaheb Kailashnath Mehra, a rich, cranky man who believes in blue blood and proudly traces his aristocracy and irascibility to at least four branches up in the family tree. The man firmly and frankly believes in looking down upon the poor and yet educates his son in a modest school that is accessible even to the sons of poor parents. The excitement begins when Rajan's school-fellows decide to go on an excursion and refuse to include Rajan in the party ridiculing the aristocratic aura that surrounds him. Eager to join his pals and hating his parents' aristocratic prescription for him for coming in the way, Rajan cries and sulks before his mother till she agrees to let him accompany his friends without the knowledge of her husband.

Rajan sets out on the trip not very happily because his mother sends along the servant Damoo too for carrying his luggage and ensuring his comfort—a thing Rajan finds disconcertingly embarrassing with his other friends embarking on the trip on their own. With the help of his friends, however, Rajan manages to shake off Damoo and speeds away in the bus. During the excursion the juveniles do a lot of things which, without being very imaginative, should be of particular interest to juvenile audiences and of general interest to all audiences.

By the time the party returns from the excursion and Rajan lands home, the cranky Mehra has not only discovered about Rajan's participation in the adventure but has become a shade more cranky trying to locate his son and get him back home. And now as a punishment for his disobedient son, Mehra withdraws him from the school and discovers a stern disciplinarian private tutor for him in the person of an ex-animal-trainer in a circus. That leads to some fun when in a closed room the tutor goes on teaching for some time a wrong boy, Chatpat, who was playing proxy so that Rajan may every evening join his friends to rehearse for the forthcoming school drama as well do his studies.

When this latest mischief of Rajan is discovered by Mehra he finds himself the chief guest at the very school drama in which Rajan participates, and therefore unable to find an opportunity to explode with anger. During the drama Nandu, one of the juveniles, is hurt and so Rajan spends a night sitting by his bedside and in the morning even goes out to replace Nandu by bringing some money by hawking newspapers. In the end, as Nandu's poor mother expresses her appreciation of Rajan's good and virtuous sentiments and simultaneously advises him to be obedient to his parents, Mehra reaches the place, decides to end his class

war and wear a less unpleasant face to suit the happy occasion.

EXCELLENT PRODUCTION

The production values are excellent. Sets are fine. The photography is pleasant. The sound is clearly recorded. The dialogue often carries an artificial note but serves the idealistic purpose of the picture. The lyrics suit the theme. The music is not very dull but not very interesting either. Santoshi's direction is a good job.

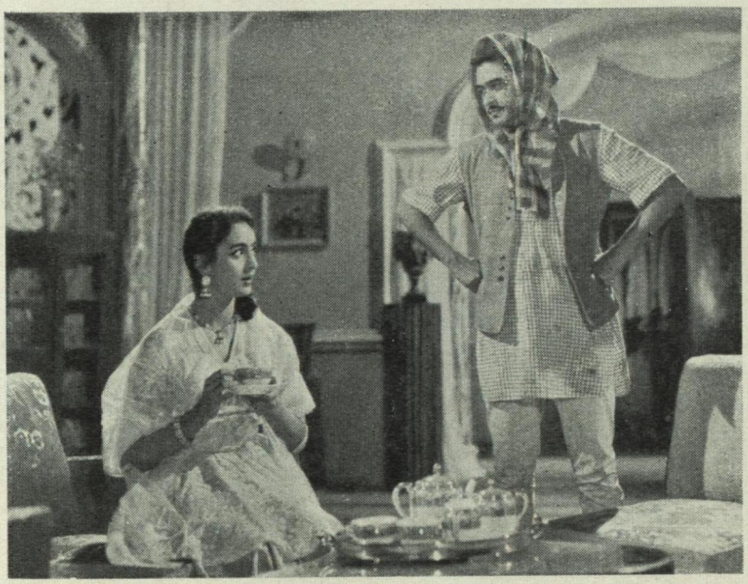
When children act they do not so much reveal their histrionic talents as they do the director's talent in getting work out of them. The juvenile cast in the picture generally seems to have followed the director. Romi as Rajan is tolerably good. Satish Vyas as Nandu is rather over-enthusiastic. Jagdeep as Mahmud does well too. But Rupkumar alias Daisy Irani as Chatpat is easily the most natural and the most lovable of them all. From the adults, Murad as Mehra looks grumpy enough. Achala Sachdev as his wife looks rather a maidservant. with thin wasting arms. David as a servant of Mehra is effective while Maruti as the other servant Damoo is fairly funny.

In fine, "Hum Panchhi Ek Dal Ke" is a praiseworthy attempt to provide children's entertainment. It is a wholesome, entertaining picture for family audiences.

HUM PANCHHI EK DAL KE

Producers:	AVM Productions
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	Narayan & Rao
Dialogue & Lyrics:	P. L. Santoshi
Music:	N. Dutta
Photography:	S. Maruti Rao
Sound:	Gopal Ram
Cast:	Romi, Satish Vyas, Rupkumar (Daisy Irani), Jagdeep, David, Maruti, Murad, Achala Sachdev, etc.
Released At:	Metro & Krishna, Bombay
Date of Release:	8th August 1957

Directed By:
P. L. SANTOSHI



The best of them soon develop an eye for young men. Nutan seems to be measuring the inches of this young man without knowing that the fellow is Kishore Kumar, the crazy colt, who keeps her running in "Chandan", a beautifully sensational entertainer directed by M. V. Raman and produced by Fali Mistry.

OUR REVIEW

"Dushman", A Silly And Unconvincing Yarn

Ineffective Attempt At Proving Misconceived Theme

"Who spoils children? Films or mothers?" asked the release day publicity of Kwatra Art Productions' "Dushman" which claims to be a retort to the 13000 women of Delhi, all mothers, who some time ago put their signatures to a petition asking the authorities to do something about the tendency of present-day films to cast an unhealthy influence upon children. The picture is an attempt to answer the question by pointing an accusing finger at mothers. The attempt is neither intelligent nor effective.

In the first place it is stupid to presume that the cause of juvenile delinquency is traceable exclusively either to films or to mothers. Juvenile delinquency is not influenza where the responsible virus can be easily isolated and a vaccine manufactured for the prevention of the disease. It is a much more complex malady traceable to many factors which sociologists are still trying to sift and dissect. In the second place, in spite of its noisy claims, the picture has so little to do with juvenile delinquency that by no stretch of imagination can it be called an essay on the subject, leave alone an intelligent answer to the problems.

"Dushman" actually is a crude, trite, thoroughly unconvincing melodrama carrying in abundance the usual jarring notes of sloppy sentimentality and seeking to provide some stock items of popular appeal. On to the melodrama, of course is tagged a moral, namely, that mothers alone guide their children into decency or delinquency depending on what they teach them of good or bad things. But this theme serves more decorative than any other purpose in the picture and is about as sincere as a 'Grow More Food' slide on the screen of an air-conditioned, city theatre.

BLAMING MOTHERS

The flaunted theme is sought to be proved by showing a crude, ignorant mother encouraging her little son to steal and lie till the boy becomes a regular delinquent. The son's initiation into delinquency by his mother, however, is disposed of in a few brief minutes and the son soon transforms into a young, notorious dacoit and the mother is seen no more on the screen except for a brief moment when she dies. The picture thereafter becomes a humour-and-thrill-punctuated account of the exploits of the handsome dacoit and of his treacherous marriage to an innocent girl till at last repentance overcomes him when police do the same. Before proceeding to keep his date with the hangman, the hero (too good a word to describe the derelict character) remembers his mother to suggest that but for her he would not be meeting the fate he was. But after following the hero's career as shown on the screen, the spectator regards the mother only to be a convenient scapegoat and not at all as a convincing cause of the hero's tragedy.

As a young boy the hero is shown intelligent enough to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong, to have obvious doubts as to the propriety of his mother's conduct which he realizes is contrary to the one daily preached and prescribed by the teacher in his school, and yet he easily slides into a career of crime never again to be halted by his own conscience or anything else till he is arrested by the police. And then he would have the world believe that his mother, who plays an all too brief role in his life, was responsible for his entire career of murders and robberies—a suggestion too bold to be plausible.

The picture thus singularly fails to prove its superficial premise and, ironically comes perilously close to being just the type of film that the Delhi mothers must have had in mind when they bewailed the unhealthy influence of films over children. For a picture cannot be said to be sincerely trying to denounce crime and delinquency

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BOMBAY 3.
PHONE: 75508 GRAM: 'KALAVADIA'
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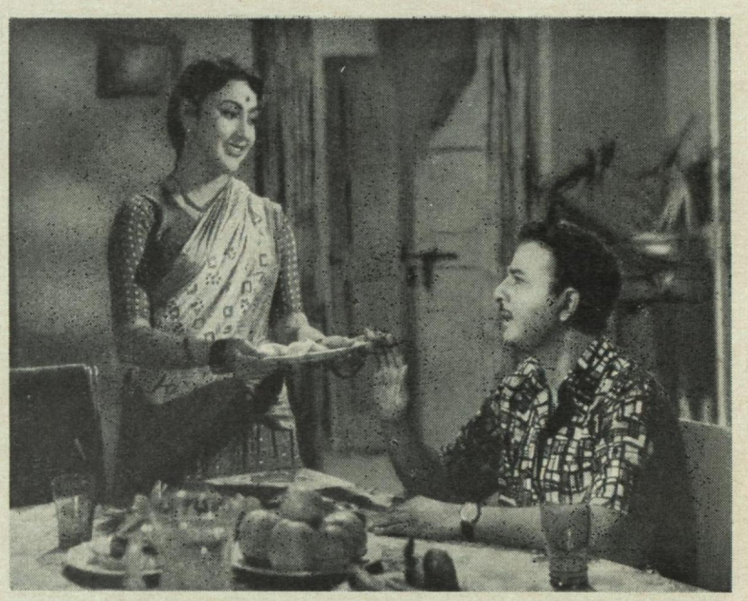


When a young man is afraid of adding weight, not even a young attractive girl can persuade him to eat a little more. Mala Sinha, a voracious eater, makes a great personal sacrifice in offering good food to Karan Dewan in "Chandan", a romantic thriller produced by Fali Mistry.

which seeks to provide entertainment through the dark exploits of a criminal, fails to build up antipathy for the criminal character, and actually turns the criminal and his accomplices into a sort of tolerable, if not nice, characters by injecting ill-placed humour into their sinister activities. That is exactly what "Dushman" does, and it is a deplorable thing to do even if it is done unconsciously. "Dushman" is one of the worst screenplays ever written by Mukhram Sharma and it suggests that the man is beginning to regard smartness as a good substitute for intelligence. Besides its dim and unconvincing content, the picture is unimaginatively directed and generally poorly acted. It all adds up to a silly, uninteresting picture richly deserving to be ignored.

A CRIMINAL'S TALE

The story deals with Ram Singh, quite a decent lad, who attentively listens to the good things taught in his school and tries to follow them in practice. His crude and ignorant mother, however, teaches him different things. She first dissuades him from returning to its owner a knife he had found in the school, then lets him keep a ball belonging to the children in the neighbourhood and finally defends him when he steals a mouth organ. The next thing we see is Ram Singh fleeing from pursuers after an act of shoplifting. With this bit finishes juvenile delinquency and a mother's contribution to it in the picture and Ram Singh is shown as a grown-up man and the ringleader of a regular gang of dacoits. With his exploits proceeding unabated the police appoint a special detective, Mehta, to track down the man. But Mehta hardly gets started on his assignment when Ram Singh, who always commits his crimes in different disguises, has managed to win the heart of Sheila who happens to be detective Mehta's sister, a news that immediately prompts Ram Singh into securing a marriage with her in the hope that if one day his true identity is revealed, Mehta would try to save him in the interests of his own sister.

Mehta of course stumbles upon the truth one day, but despite his best efforts to arrest him Ram Singh manages to escape. The shocked Sheila makes a premature delivery and when Mehta's wife unkindly complains that because of her and her husband Mehta's job was likely to be in jeopardy, Sheila picks up her infant and goes to live separately. And when she is visited by Ram Singh, who it seems was still hanging around town, she expresses her wish never to see his face again and never to allow him to come anywhere near her child. And now while Sheila brings up her child with love and wisdom, Ram Singh, still out of the clutches of law, keeps wandering gloomily here and there till he has grown quite a long, shabby beard and has not only begun to look like a beggar without food and shelter but has almost become one.

By this time Ram Singh is supposed to be in a repentant mood, even though the fellow does not surrender himself to the police, and Sheila, after a couple of visits from him changes her mind and forgives him. The police however do not appreciate Sheila's sentiments and she is arrested with a lot of noise about harbouring a criminal. Mukhram Sharma and the producers evidently do not know that according to the law of the land harbouring an offender is no offence if the harbour is by the husband or wife of the offender. Anyway, soon afterwards, Ram Singh too is arrested through a trap and the joke is that he is shown behaving as if he himself had surrendered to the police. The picture ends with Sheila out of custody, Mehta out of suspicion and Ram Singh ready to go out of the world—after doing his mother-blaming bit.

UNIMAGINATIVE DIRECTION

The production values are not bad. Sets are generally quite good. Photography is satisfactory most of the time. Sound recording is not so efficient. The dialogue by Mukhram is no more impressive than is his story. The music is just too dull. The direction is unimaginative.

From the players, Dev Anand as Ram Singh is unconvincing. To reveal sinister designs he just cocks his eyes heavenwards and to express sorrow he just winks with them. That can hardly be called acting. But he seems to carry an appeal for teenage girls among the audience. Usha Kiran as Sheila is a poor reminder of her attractive screen past and looks pale and plain and fat-covered all over. And her pregnant appearance in wrong places in the picture adds a mysterious note to the character. She, however, acts quite well. Radhakishan as Ram Singh's comical fence provides some usual comedy in a criminal's role. Prabhu Dayal as the detective Mehta looks a rather dumb chap for the role. From the rest Chand Burq as the mother and Romi as the young Ram Singh are tolerable.

In short, "Dushman" is a silly and unconvincing tale which neither proves a point nor provides good entertainment. It is a picture which richly deserves to be ignored both by the picturegoers and exhibitors.

DUSHMAN

Producers: **Kwatra Art Productions**
Language: **Hindustani**
Story, Screenplay & Dialogue: **Mukhram Sharma**
Lyrics: **Prem Dhawan, Tanvir Naqvi, Santoshi**
Music: **Husanlal Bhagatram**
Photography: **G. Kale, M. W. Mukadam**
Sound: **B. L. Nagar**
Cast: **Dev Anand, Usha Kiran, Radhakishan, Prabhu Dayal, Chand Burq, etc.**
Released At: **Novelty, Bombay**
Date of Release: **2nd August 1957**

Directed By:
RAJ RISHI

She thinks it is rock 'n roll with a guy whose thirsty eyes need a tumbler of sex. It is rape, the role that often brings home a cradle to rock, and K. N. Singh seems to be teaching Chitra the first steps of roll 'n rape in "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a sensational social theme produced by Mehtab Films Ltd.

OUR REVIEW

"Lakhon Men Ek", Miserably Poor Picture

Poor Presentation Of An Unoriginal Comedy

M & T Films' "Lakhon Men Ek" is a stupid, stark ugly, fourth rate picture which appears to have been made by some people who just wanted to while away time and got an opportunity to fiddle with celluloid and a motion picture camera. Practically every frame of the picture proclaims its makers' technical incompetence and poverty of imagination and most of the time the picture invites more derision than attention.

Absurdly written, ineptly directed and shabbily produced, the picture begins as a dull, crude, unconvincing romance and then suddenly begins striving to be a fantastic comedy. In the first half the picture is ugly and intensely dull and in the second half, when the fantastic stuff begins, it is ugly and generally silly even though its fantastic stuff is obviously inspired by particularly two old foreign pictures, "A Matter Of Life And Death" and Paul Muni starred "Angel On My Shoulder".

WRESTLER'S ROMANCE

It all begins with Asha, a young girl, going to witness a wrestling match in the company of her father and taking a fancy to Atma Ram, a young wrestler, who not only delights her with his performance in the arena but impresses her with his chivalry by coming to her rescue when she gets caught amidst a throng of vulgar, jostling spectators. Asha and her father immediately extend Atma an invitation to visit them and the young wrestler is duly at their house the next day. During the visit Atma learns that Asha's father, a sort of eccentric creature, is looking for a suitable husband for his daughter and that by suitable he means a man who has proven capacity of earning with his own efforts 10,000 rupees in six months. So, when Asha's and Atma's attraction for each other turns into mutual love in due time, Atma, encouraged by Asha, decides to qualify himself for winning her hand in marriage by producing the necessary wealth within the specified time.

Approached by Atma for advice, Kallu Ustad, Atma's trainer and mentor, tells him that the film industry was the only place where any fool could make the most money in the least time. Atma thereupon quickly hits the trail to Bombay and manages to get inside a film studio. But when an actress tries to seduce him brazenly and impatiently, the young wrestler declines the bed contest and takes the earliest train for home.

And now Atma, with the help of Kallu, decides to earn those 10,000 rupees from the only business he claims proficiency in, that is wrestling. He starts touring all over India and winning one bout after another. But by the time he collects some money and lands a rickety car—a present from an admirer—he meets with a fatal car collision. After that his soul starts climbing heavenwards and the picture towards a fantastic plane.

When Atma or rather his soul reaches the region where Yamaraj, the death deity, is receiving new arrivals from earth and prescribing hell or heaven to them according to their terrestrial record, it is discovered that Atma has been picked up by death messengers by mistake and that he has still quite a long lease of life on earth. Yamaraj hastens to set things right but finding that Atma's body has already been cremated places his soul into the body of Seth Motilal, a rich, dishonest and fun-loving businessman just done to death by his faithless wife Kamini and his manager Mani, Kamini's paramour. Atma chooses to take residence in the body of a sinner like Motilal because that way he sees a chance of being close to his beloved Asha, the thought of marrying whom does not desert him even after his cremation.

When Seth Motilal's corpse with Atma's soul inside him comes back to life even after a heavy dose of poison and a gruesome suffocating immersion in the bath, Kamini, who is the same old actress who had tried to seduce Atma, and Mani are reasonably shocked. But the fantastic creature, that combination of Atma's soul and Motilal's body, does not bother about revenge and after first getting Asha's father out of business trouble into which Motilal had landed the old man straightaway proceeds to pursue the old ambition of winning the wrestling championship of India and Asha's hand in marriage. And that is exactly what he manages to achieve. At the end of a lot of weird goings-on, Kamini fatally shoots first Mani and then herself and presumably the death messengers make no mistake in picking them up.

SLOVENLY STUFF

The fantastic stuff in the picture does provide some amusement in places but the ideas being borrowed from foreign pictures and their presentation being generally clumsy, the picture totally fails to impress. On the whole, it remains a silly picture shabbily produced.

The production values are slovenly. Sets are crude, ugly and unimaginative. The photography is generally clumsy. The sound recording is erratic. The dialogue is devoid of any wit or intelligence. The music is quite uninteresting. In spite of revealing a faint flair for comedy in some places the direction is generally pathetically pedestrian.

From the players, Asha Mathur as Asha gives a performance that one cannot talk about without being unkind to her. Let us hope her recent marriage has taken her away from the screen for good. Raj Kumar as Atma, the wrestler, looks as if he has just had a bout with an emaciating illness. He visibly lacks the necessary brawn for the role and generally acts amateurishly. There seems to be, however, raw material in him to attract the attention of a competent director. Jairaj as Motilal the sinner and as the body with a new soul, is quite good. David as Kallu Ustad does some delightful work. Madan Puri as Mani does well. Smriti Biswas as Kamini is unimpressive.

In short, "Lakhon Men Ek" is a miserably poor picture which cannot be risked even with a complimentary ticket.

LAKHON MEN EK

Producers:	M & T Films
Language:	Hindustani
Story, Screenplay and Dialogue:	S. Singh
Lyrics:	Ramesh Pant
Music:	Bhola Shrestha
Photography:	Surendra Sinha
Sound:	Mehta
Cast:	Asha Mathur, Raj Kumar, Jairaj, Smriti Biswas, David, Madan Puri, etc.
Released At:	Swastik, Bombay
Date of Release:	9th August 1957

Directed By: **HIRA SINGH**

OUR REVIEW

"Johnny Walker", A Noisy, Trashy Picture

Farcical Presentation Of Anti-drink Theme

Natraja Productions' "Johnny Walker" leads one to the conclusion that the only thing that actuated its producers to make the film is the hope of some easy profits and that if somebody had promised them similar profits in any other job, say making of cowdung cakes, they might have easily taken up that work and left film-making alone. We only wish somebody had done so. We then could have been spared the ordeal of witnessing a picture which is so thoroughly stupid and trashy that when it is over the spectator feels having been through an irritating two-hour company of a noisy illiterate.

There is certainly nothing wrong with chasing profits through film making which is a perfectly legitimate business. But film making happens to be an art too and one expects an attempt at it to be attended by at least a minimum of artistic sense and imagination that is necessary to distinguish it from common pedlary for profits. "Johnny Walker" has nothing even remotely artistic or imaginative about it. It is just pedlary for profits, the chief article it tries to peddle being the antics of comedian Johnny Walker. The mere fact that the picture carries the title "Johnny Walker" for no other apparent reason than that Johnny Walker appears in it proves that the picture just aims at cashing, crudely and hurriedly, the alleged popularity of the comedian.

Nominally the picture has a story, a theme and a purpose but essentially it is noise—most of it drunken and farcical noise. The professed purpose of the picture is to denounce drink and that purpose is sought to be achieved by showing the central character, played by Johnny Walker, in a drunken condition for a major length of the picture and in a manner that is clearly intended to amuse the spectators rather than to drive home to them the evils of alcoholism, and then at the fag end of the picture by suddenly and unconvincingly showing him to be a reformed character who has not only vowed never again to go near the bottle—but also decided to preach against the damned thing. Thus the picture itself never seems to take the theme seriously, leave alone its putting it across effectively. And since the picture is clumsily produced and more clumsily directed with its general tone being crude, noisy and illiterate, it fails to entertain either, —though it may have something to delight idiots.

A DRUNKARD'S TALE

The story concerns Murli Manohar, an illiterate looking graduate, who every day hunts for a job and every night ends up with the bottle. His elder brother with whom he lives, however, remains in the dark about his drink habit, thanks to the elder brother's good-natured wife shielding his vice in the belief that his drunken nights are only accidental and probably traceable to frustration of unemployment and bad company.

When Manohar fails to land a job easily, he lands one fraudulently with the help of his bottle friend Shankar and a forged letter purported to be written by the proprietor of a firm to his manager. The story of how that happens is a collection of idiotic details. Anyway, in the office in which Manohar manages to find a job he finds two skirt-wearing female employees too, a Sindhi girl named Chandra and a heavy thing called Glory. And Manohar soon gets busy with wooing the Sindhi lass in a noisy, farcical manner. His nightly bouts with the bottle, however, continue though he falsely tells Chandra that his brother was a drunkard.

By the time Chandra proudly wants her father to approve of her lover, Manohar is thrown out of his fraudulently acquired job and discovered in his true drunken colours by Chandra and her father. That makes both the daughter and the father red, one with shame and the other with anger. Chandra, however, still wants Manohar, and his brother and sister-in-law also want to help him get settled in life with Chandra as his wife. Manohar, however, does not want to help himself and instead settles down to drink for a couple of more reels till, taking advantage of the absence from town of his brother and sister-in-law, he has sold away every single piece of furniture and every saleable article in the house to buy a drink with. When Chandra discovers him in this state she pretends as if she had taken to the stuff too and that plus the death of his friend Shanker make Manohar reformed enough, after an idiotic court scene, to proclaim himself a teetotaller and a prohibition propagandist with Chandra at his side as his wife.

Wherever there is K. N. Singh there is a woman and a crime, both. A policeman follows. Here is an intriguing situation from "Kabhi Andhera Kabhi Ujala", a sensational social tale produced by Mehtab Films.

POOR ALL ROUND

The picture is poor in production values. Sets are unimpressive. The photography is uneven. The music is either dull or hybrid or sometimes familiar enough to suggest that O. P. Nayyar is not above repeating his own recent tunes. Besides some effective bits of broad humour, the dialogue is crude and noisy. The direction is pedestrian.

From the players, Johnny Walker as Manohar once more portrays a drunkard in his familiar manner and puts over some familiar farce. He is tolerable in places but it becomes boring to watch him on the screen most of the time. Shyama as Chandra does little beyond switching on her usual smile by way of acting. Sheila Vaz as Glory just provides dimensions in female figure. Raj Mehra as Manohar's elder brother is quite good—while the girl who plays his wife generally looks ill at ease. The rest are generally worse.

In short, "Johnny Walker" is a crude, noisy, illiterate picture which neither provides some intelligent entertainment nor succeeds in driving home the lesson against liquor. It is a picture which is likely to leave intelligent picturegoers irritated.

JOHNNY WALKER

Producers:	Natraja Productions
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	Ved and Madan
Screenplay & Dialogue:	B. M. Bukhari
Lyrics:	Hasrat Jaipuri
Music:	O. P. Nayyar
Photography:	T. R. Joshi
Sound:	Wagle
Cast:	Johnny Walker, Shyama, Raj Mehra, Dulari, Sheila Vaz, etc.
Released At:	Lamington, Bombay
Date of Release:	16th August 1957

Directed By:
VED AND MADAN

BUCHAREST

seat of a remote controlled vehicle

A view of the University Square which proves that Bucharest is as big, bustling and modern a city as any other important metropolis in the world.

SITUATED in the basin of the lower Danube and bounded by the Black Sea on one side and by fellow Communist countries on all the other, Rumania belongs to that group of nations whose one designation is Eastern European Democracies and another, Soviet Satellites. Though a sovereign independent country for all theoretical purposes, Rumania's movements as a political vehicle are such as to suggest that though its political engine purrs in the country itself, its steering wheel is controlled from distant Moscow. For, every time the operating hands in Moscow flick, the Rumanian vehicle takes a corresponding turn automatically. And nobody seems either to know or to care where the passengers in the vehicle want to go. The passengers themselves seem to be quite indifferent about this remote-controlled drive—an attitude which can perhaps be explained by the history of the passengers.

The Rumanians, as their history reveals, have known political serfdom as a form of existence far much longer than freedom as a way of life. Throughout their history they have seen invaders come and go and their local rulers forced to accept the vassalage of some foreign power. And though they have enjoyed intervals of political freedom, the intervals have been few and far between and generally brief. In any event, the Rumanians were never allowed to develop a tradition of freedom. Long used to paying tribute to foreign overlords, the Rumanians still seem to be retaining strains of the old habit of accepting foreign powers' overlordship as a rather normal and unprovocative political phenomenon.

Perhaps that is why they accept without a demur their rulers deciding the political weather of the day for the country in strict accordance with the Moscow prophets' forecast the day before. When Moscow denounced Yugoslavia's Tito, Rumania followed suit. When Moscow decided to reinstall Tito on the pedestal, Rumania toed the line. And when some weeks ago Moscow purged Malenkov, Molotov & Co., Rumania quickly fell in step by announcing the expulsion from the Politburo of two veteran Stalinists including a Minister. And thus the sovereign, independent Rumania goes on dancing to the political tunes composed and played in Moscow.

The history of Rumania is in the main joint history of Wallachia, Moldavia and Transylvania, the three principalities that flourished north of the Danube in former times. Though the civilization of Rumania is traceable to the Neolithic age, its history more or less begins from the Roman times when the area north of the Danube was inhabited by Daci or Getae, a fighting tribe of Thracian origin, who were fond of harassing the Romans and extracting annual payments from them with a promise of better behaviour. The favourite sport of the tribe, and gradually the tribe itself, came to an end when Roman Emperor Trajan turned his arms and attention towards them and after completely subduing them by AD. 106 turned their country into a Roman province known as Dacia.

ROMAN HOLIDAY

That led to the influx of Roman colonists into the country. While in Dacia the Romans started doing as Romans did in Rome with the result that they exerted such a deep influence on the country that till today Rumanian continues to be a Romance language with most of its words being Latin. After remaining one of the most flourishing provinces of the Roman Empire for a considerable time, Dacia's Roman holiday came to an end around the 6th century from which date till the 12th century the country was ceaselessly trodden by a long succession of invaders which included Goths, Tatars, Huns, Bulgarians and Magyars. And by this time the Daco-Roman inhabitants had almost been wiped out though not quite completely, for the modern Rumanians or Vlachs are considered to be a race traceable to the original Daco-Romans mixed with other immigrants from the Trans-Danubian region.

Tradition attributes the foundation of the Wallachian state to Rudolf the Black in 1290 when the area was occupied by a mixed race of Tatars, Vlachs and Slavs. But even under Rudolf, Wallachia was a vassal of the Hungarian

This is a street in the new workers' district of Ferentari. Many such districts have sprung up in the capital since. Rumania became what is supposed to be the workers' paradise. But concrete structures alone do not make a paradise.

crown. And the fate of vassalage continued to dog Wallachia, as well as the state of Moldavia, till the last quarter of the 19th century and the two principalities for most part of the period were forced to recognize the supremacy or the suzerainty of one or another foreign power. Sometimes the power was Hungary and sometimes Poland but most of the time it was the Turkish empire which held the Rumanian principalities under its thumb and the centuries of tyrannical Turkish rule is a bitter memory with the Rumanians. Among the few brief spells of freedom that Wallachia enjoyed was the one that lasted just fourteen years during the time of voivode or prince, John Bassarab the Great, who secured independence for his country by inflicting a defeat on King Charles I of Hungary, and another one during the voivodeship of Michael the Brave, a clever and ambitious character, who not only gave the Turks a bitter taste of defeat in 1597 but united under his rule the three principalities of Wallachia, Moldavia and Transylvania and thus for the first time since Trajan's conquest put the whole of the original Dacia together as one kingdom.

PRINCEDOM FOR AUCTION

Michael, however, was treacherously murdered and his work soon undone. Later, when Wallachia and Moldavia ran out of national princes, the Turks started selling the voivodeship to whoever offered the highest price and the highest price was usually offered by Fanariots, the descendants of the noble-born Greeks of Constantinople. In 1821, however, the Turks once again allowed the principalities to elect their own rulers. Though still under the suzerainty of the Turks, the principalities were given separate assemblies through which to elect their respective rulers. But in 1859 both the assemblies unanimously elected as their common ruler Prince Alexander John Cuza and thus with the union of Wallachia and Moldavia originated the kingdom of Rumania whose independence was formally recognized two years after the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78 in which Rumanians joined hands with the Russians against their old, hated foes, the Turks.

The years of freedom that followed up to 1947 are notable only for the two World Wars and the world economic crisis of the 1930's. In both the World Wars Rumania was once again ravaged and occupied by foreign powers. In the First World War alone Rumanian deaths are estimated to have numbered 325,000 soldiers and 275,000 civilians. With the general picture of the country following the independence being characterized by economic misery and political confusion, their new freedom evidently did not taste particularly sweet to the Rumanians. In August 1944 the Soviet Army drove the Germans out of the country and in 1945 with its gallantly disclaimed but nonetheless ever perceptible help the Communists slid into the seat of power. No one quite knows what does the word freedom mean now to the Rumanians. Whatever it means, they don't seem to show that they are not enjoying the ride in their remote-controlled vehicle.

THE "GREAT" AND THE "GLORIOUS"

And now invoking at every turn the blessings of the dead Russians like Lenin and inviting the guidance of the living ones like Khrushchev, Rumania is going on achieving "new successes in production and new victories on the front of peaceful construction work". And the Rumanians, or at least their rulers, never tire of expressing their gratitude to the Soviet Army which liberated them and every mention of which must be preceded by the adjective "glorious", and to the Soviet people whose mention must always be preceded by the word "great".

A land covering an area of 91,500 square miles and containing a poulation of about 18,000,000 people, Rumania is an agricultural country rich in natural resources and now placing the usual emphasis on rapid industrialization. Endowed with an extensive stretch of fertile soil, the country produces sizeable crops of wheat, barley, oats, millets and beans, and claims to be the biggest maize-producing country in Europe after the Soviet Union. With 24 per cent of the land consisting of forests, timber is an important product, and vine-growing and cattle-breeding are done on a large scale. Collective farming is being pushed hard upon the farmers but the progress is said to be slow. Last year all varieties of collective farms numbered 10,300, while state farms, owned and worked by the State, numbered 375.

Industrially, the most important mineral product of Rumania is petroleum—an asset which was desperately exploited by the Germans during the last war and which is now presumably an additional argument with the Russians for the preservation of Russo-Rumanian friendship. The oil production has been stepped up and last year the production was 10,600,000 metric tons, an all-time high. Other minerals available in Rumania include coal, salt, iron ore, gold and silver ore and mica. Important industries include flour-milling, brewing, distilling and production of chemicals derived from petroleum and

That is the people of Rumania dancing to the tune of Moscow and calling it the celebration of the 23rd of August, the National Liberation Day or the day on which the Soviet Army replaced the Germans in the country. The picture of Stalin is there because this photo was taken in 1952.

The Athenaeum of Rumanian People's Republic was one of the many notable institutions in Bucharest that were badly damaged by aerial bombardment during the war. Restored now, the Athenaeum looks handsome as ever.

lignite or coal. Practically all manufacturing concerns are nationalized. At the end of its first Five-Year Plan, Rumania claimed its industrial output to be almost three times bigger than in the year before the war. Though the standard of living has not arisen high enough to cease being called low, the state spent 1,935 million lei in 1956 on public health as against 603 million lei in 1949.

Bucharest, the capital of the country, is situated in a fertile plain on the River Dambovita. Though archaeological excavations in and around the city have unearthed tools made of stone, bone, bronze and iron thus indicating the city to be situated on the site of a prehistoric settlement, Bucharest comes up for attention mainly from 1698 when the Turks moved the Princes Court from Targoviste, the capital of Wallachia, to Bucharest. It became the country's capital in 1859. The city began to grow gradually round the Prince's Court which is situated near the present Flower Market.

MUCH RAVAGED CITY

During its history Bucharest has suffered many a havoc. It has been repeatedly ravaged by fires, sacked by invading armies and severely damaged by aerial bombardment during the last war. It has known the ravage of plague and the fury of eathquakes. And it has witnessed many a scene of bloodbath enacted on its old streets and squares. But in spite of all this, the modern Bucharest generally looks fresh and modern and shows very few scars. Though the narrow streets and the closely built houses in the suburbs lend a medieval touch to the looks of the capital, Bucharest impresses one as a big, bustling, modern city if not a city of grandeur.

There are many tall and handsome buildings in the city as well as several pleasant parks and gardens. The seat of the head of the Rumanian and Greek Orthodox Church, as well as a Roman Catholic episcopal see, Bucharest has many churches, the most famous ones being the Greek Cathedral which dates back to 1656, the Roman Cathedral which was built during 1875-84, and the chapel of Stavropolos.

Among the important public buildings of Bucharest are the Rumanian Athenaeum, a handsome structure badly damaged by German bombers during the war but now restored, the University Library, also damaged during the war but now restored, the Bucharest National Theatre, the Central House of the Army, the Savings and Deposit Bank, the Palace of Ministry of Postal Administration and Tele-communication, the Lenin Institute for Economics, the Grand National Assembly, the Faculty of Architecture, the Bucharest Tribunal, the State Opera House, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Transport, the Patriarchate, the I. L. Caragiale Institute of Dramatic Art, and the recent and huge Stalin Scanteia House Printing Works.

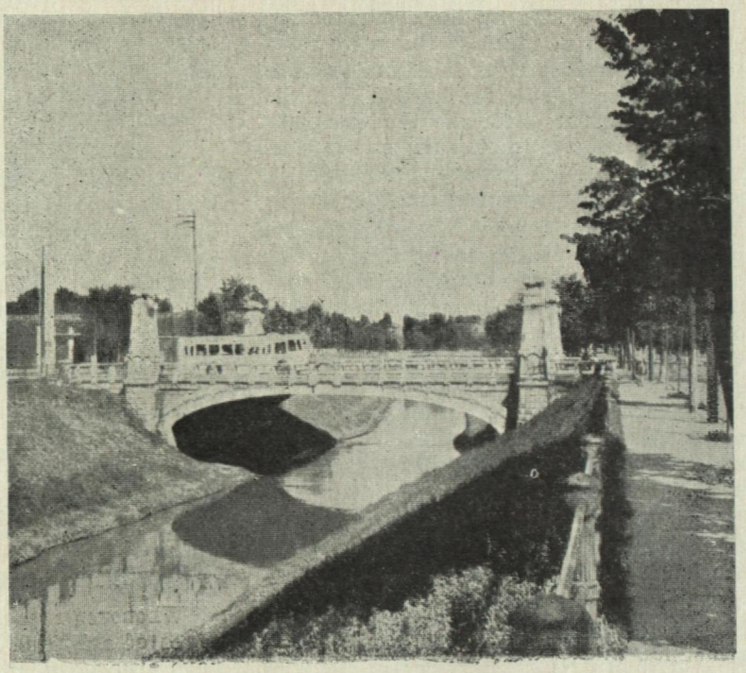
PROLETARIAN PARKS

There are quite a few museums in the city and they include the Rumanian Village Museum, the Lenin-Stalin Museum, the Folk Art Museum, the Simu Museum, the Grigore Antipa Natural History Museum and the Art Museum of Rumanian People's Republic. The museums are well equipped and interestingly arranged and offer the visitor a wealth of facts about Rumania.

The tradition of parks in the capital comes down from the feudal times but now the parks and gardens are open to the proletariat and bear names that suit the times. They include the Cismigiu Gardens located in the centre of the city, the Liberty Park, the Stalin Park, a huge interesting affair with a lake, lanes, an open-air theatre, a chess club, giant merry-go-rounds and all, the Maxim Gorky Park, and the Botanical Gardens.

Since the last war there has been considerable face-lifting of the city and much construction has been done. New hospitals and houses have sprung up in the city all round and the new buildings generally combine grace with utility and comfort. And hotels like the Athenee Palace Hotel and the Ambassador Hotel, and boulevards and squares like the Nicolae Balcescu Boulevard, the 6th of March Boulevard and the University Square, the Republic Square and the C.A. Rosetti Square remind one of the big, metropolitan cities of other advanced countries.

There is no doubt a great many pleasant things and sights to see in Bucharest. But the trouble is that a visitor is likely to be first shown the Monument to the Soviet Soldier and that sets one thinking about serfdom and Communism and Satellitism and Rumania's traditional and recent connection with them. And that leaves one rather sad.



This thing looking like the Worli gutter of Bombay is called the Dambovita River on the banks of which Bucharest is situated. Rumanians are great ones at giving grand labels to not-so-grand things.

Letters submitted for this section should not have more than 25 lines. Rs.5/- will be paid for every letter published in this section.

On the frontiers of youth thoughts rush in and out with such a fury that it is difficult to catch them and put them on paper. The best letter of love is written on a woman's face. And yet Waheeda Rehman sends one through the postman in "Solva Saal", a romantic tale directed by Raj Khosla for Chandra Films.

INCURABLE ARROGANCE

"I bring to the knowledge of your select readership my personal experience of public servants' misbehaviour.

I was travelling by a bus of the Delhi Transport Service the other day. At a 'By Request' stop, a poor lady in an advanced stage of pregnancy stood on the foot board and enquired if the bus could take her to a certain destination. The conductor shouted 'No' and signalled the bus to start before the lady could get down. As a result of this attitude, the lady fell down with a thud on the roadside. The bus was not stopped and the conductor wore a look as though it was none of his business to see what had happened.

"At another stop, a labourer—couple wanted to board the bus. The conductor again started the bus when the lady had scarcely and dangerously managed to stand on the foot board. On her wailing that the bus be stopped for her man to get in, (who it was a pathetic sight) was running after the bus in a frantic effort to catch up, the conductor maliciously laughed at her, stopped the bus at some distance, and shouted at her to 'get out'.

"On my protest that his behaviour towards the passengers was unbecoming of a public servant, he shouted at me to mind my own business. Another passenger in D.T.S. (Delhi Transport Service) uniform came over to me, and then followed a chorus of shouts, threats and abuses hurled at me in unison by the conductor and the employee-pasenger. On my demand for the Complaint Book, the conductor refused and said he did not have it with him. A T.T.E. procured for me the Complaint Book, but refused to stop the bus to enter the complaint. I, however, sat down to scribble a few words in the moving bus.

"And then, as if what had happened was not enough, a passenger in a constable's uniform caught hold of my arm, wrested the Complaint Book out of my hands, and directed the bus to the Police Post. Here was this constable an addition to give strength to the D.T.S. employees. The language used by the three of them to abuse me was so obscene that it cannot be allowed to make a bow to the spotlight of print.

"Amidst the shouts and threats of these three and the other police constables at the Post, I put in my complaint.

"This is how authority behaves in Nehru's democratic India. Do you have something to say, dear editor?"

NEW DELHI. **Vidhu B. Bakshi.**

RELIGION OF HUMANITY

"Some people say that Mr. Baburao Patel is anti-Muslim while some others say that he is an orthodox Hindu. In reality he is neither. To remove the misunderstanding of these people I would like to quote the reply of the question, "In what religion do you believe?" from the June 1957 issue of 'Filmindia', which runs as follows:—

"Religion is a drug for the fool. A thinker has no religion. He believes in God but not in man-made notions of conduct. Religion restricts thought, segregates groups of people and divides them. Religion has killed more people in the world than all the fell diseases put together. I am at an age where the label of any particular religion has ceased to attract. I am now craving for the supreme essence of all life."

"This is more than sufficient to show the true religion of Mr. Baburao Patel which is "the supreme essence of all life."

MAINPURI. **Vir B. S. Chauhan.**

PITY THE IGNORANT

"Whenever I have happened to scan the pages of a British periodical or weekly, I have always found that India is still identified with snake charmers, rope-tricks and harems. Such colossal ignorance exhibited by our ex-rulers appears to be definitely deliberate and malicious.

"It gives us an insight into their character as it pointedly illustrates that they can go to any extent to sell their 'wares' and in doing so are least concerned about hurting the feelings and sentiments of others.

"Journalism there has mostly degenerated into commercialised vice (may be, there are a few exceptions), and with the public clamouring for such things, there seems to be hardly any hope of their reformation in the near future. However, Mr. Patel, unless a voice is raised against this in our country, we do not know for how long they will continue to heap ridicule on us. We look to you for the remedy."

BHOPAL. **Maharaj Singh.**

PAT FOR EDITOR PATEL

"You have once again hit the bullet on the target. Your trenchant criticism in the May issue of 'filmindia', of the Service men and Defence personnel attending drinking parties and thereby losing not only their wives but also endangering the country by divulging the country's secrets, has been echoed by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru also.

"During the foreign affairs debate in the Lok Sabha on 23rd July 1957, Nehru said: "I must say that I do not agree with the statement that is sometimes made—even

Raj Kapoor, who plays a news reporter, has evidently stepped on the corns of Ram Avatar by getting at the truth of things. Gope, of course, lends his moral support but that does not seem to help in "Reporter", an exciting social story produced by C. M. Trivedi.

by our ambassadors—that drink attracts people to parties and if there are no drinks served people will not come— I do not believe in this kind of diplomacy which depends on drinking....Apart from that, it is quite undesirable for certain types of officials—to some extent for everybody—like our defence men and foreign office men to drink because they are supposed to have all kinds of secret information and once you drink, you may not be drunk, but your tongue is loosened."

"Let us hope Panditji's sober advice is followed scrupulously by the Service men and Defence personnel. But, as usual, you anticipated Pandit Nehru and came out months before with your criticism of drinking parties attended by Indian officials. Bravo, Baburao!"

CALCUTTA. **P. S. Easwaran.**

WORTH A MILLION

"Let me congratulate you on your bold and fearless article on the Income Tax Department, published in the June issue of 'Filmindia'. I enjoyed reading your masterly exposition of facts.

"The cartoons "Wealth Tax I and II" in the July issue of 'Filmindia' are worth a million. I suggest that these cartoons should be reproduced in all the leading journals of India.

"Really speaking, "Filmindia's" worth is a thousand times more than its price."

TRICHINOPOLY. **Ram M. Makhija.**

SMOKE AND GOSSIP

"I do not think I would be fully justified in thanking you through this letter, for writing that marvellous article in the July issue of "filmindia" titled "Austerity Or Perversity"? The suggestions offered by you are noteworthy and the voluntary services rendered to the Government are praiseworthy. But do you think Mr. Patel that these overwise Congressmen are going to avail themselves of your services even if they are free of cost?

"You should not have simply suggested that 60% of the present strength in the staff of the Accountant-General's Office should be retrenched but should have written that their heads should be chopped off for doing harm to the national work. I would also like you to make a reference in some future date to the corrupt methods that are being pursued in the Director-General of Supplies & Disposals' Office. Quite a few deputy directors in that office imagine themselves to be gods and nothing else. Their talk is often objectionable and the progress they make in a case silly. Interviews are avoided on flimsy grounds by these stupid officers in the Director-General of Supplies & Disposals Office and if the present Government is sincere in its efforts to make the second Five-Year Plan a success, they must get rid of such officers who weaken the Government machinery by their autocratic behaviour. You may be surprised to note that cases do not receive any attention of the Department for years together and when this fact is brought to the notice of the concerned officer, the reply comes, "I am not only meant for you", "I have other work to do also." May I know what is the other work these officials have to do?"

DELHI. **N. K. Malhotra.**

A PLEBEIAN SOLUTION

"Your editorial "Austerity Or Perversity?" appearing in the July issue of 'filmindia' is rich with suggestions calculated to eliminate the several acts of corruption and malpractices, obtaining in the Government administration. I am inclined to think on the same lines as you do, in so far as the delays, discrepancies and defects in the running of Government machinery are concerned. But I cannot bring myself to subscribe to your view that instead of reducing the pay of the high-placed Government officials, they should be paid more with a view to prevent them for being dishonest and corrupt. My fear is that those who are now corrupt will continue to be so, despite the increase in their salary, which is already fat and hence the increase of pay will only mean more expenditure to the Government. I am here aware of the punitive measures you have suggested for strict adoption but how far can these measures be put into practice is a big problem causing grave concern. Hence, I welcome such voluntary cuts in the salary, as have been advised by our Prime Minister.

"Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru is a fine man, full of the spirit of sacrifice for the sake of the amelioration of the low and the down-trodden. If his suggestions are heard and acted upon by the officials occupying high ranks, much good will proceed from it. I, for one, believe in the policy that the salary of the high-placed should be decreased and that of the low-placed increased, so that the standard of living will go up."

POONA. **K. Ponnusamy.**

ANNUAL WASTE

"Much is being said and written about the so-called austerity drive in the country. You have well exposed this stunt in your article "Austerity or Perversity"? in the July 1957 issue of "filmindia". The report given below was submitted by a staff correspondent of the "Hindustan Times" and published in the same paper on 26th July 1957. See what an ironic comment the report provides on this move!

"Hundreds of almirahs, tables and chairs belonging to the C.P.W.D. and meant for the use of Government servants, all bought with tax-payers' money, have been lying in the open in New Delhi during the last few days since the arrival of the monsoon.

"A close inspection showed that the furniture was usable, though the varnish was worn off. A few days more in the rain and it will be declared unsuitable and disposed of as fuel. A bargain will probably be struck and some furniture merchant will then sell it, revarnished and repainted, to the tax-payers."

"According to the spokesman of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply the furniture is "not new". The Government, he said, was not going to replace old furniture in Government flats and bungalows with new pieces. That may be so, but even if old furniture in good condition is to be sold, must it be allowed to lie in the rain for days and its value allowed to depreciate?

"The rains could not have taken the C.P.W.D. unawares. The monsoon, as it is, was about a week late this time. But this story is a hardy annual."

"Is that also austerity, Mr. Patel?"

JULLUNDUR. **Manohar S. Maker.**

HARD CASH ADVICE

"Your brief synopsis of the various measures that the Government should take to avoid waste and corruption published in the "Filmindia" of July 1957 is very constructive, invigorating, effective and intelligent. As a good citizen and a patriot, you have been giving valuable suggestions on many matters. And all this free and without obligation. But advice and suggestions, however valuable, when given gratis do not have weight with the present Government. The advice must cost heavily to the taxpayers. They want advice only from foreign experts like Mr. Kaldor and Professor Appleby which must have cost the Government a good amount. In short, like all its other costly schemes, the Government enjoys only costly advice."

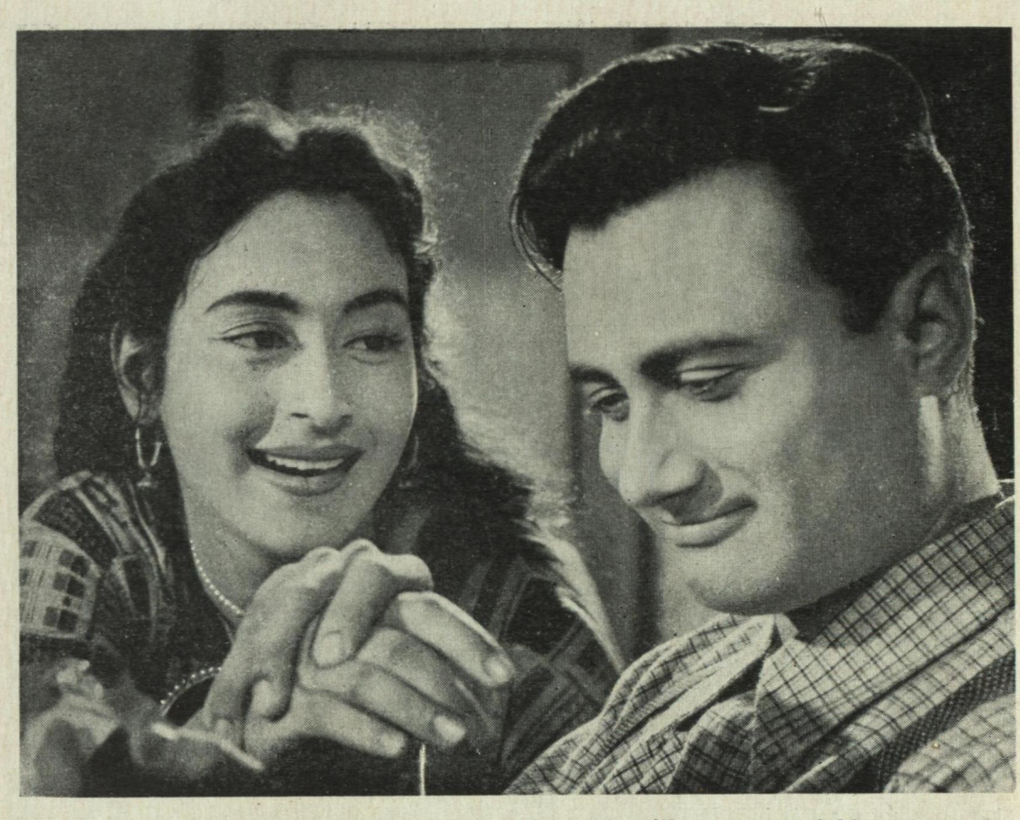
SECUNDERABAD. **N. V. Prahlad.**

MOWED WITH RUPEES

"You have very rightly disclosed in your editorial "Austerity Or Perversity?" in the "Filmindia" July issue of how public money is going to the gutters without yielding anything. This ten per cent business, moreover, is getting on our nerves. The speaker, the deputy speaker, the vice-president-cum-chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the deputy-chairman are all in the news because they have advertised their preparedness to forego a couple of hundred rupees from more than a couple of thousand rupees.

"The fun of it is that on the very day all this ado about almost nothing was started by the Prime Minister, the C.P.W.D. called for tenders to renovate the lawns of ministers' bungalows in the capital. And, Mr. Patel, shall I tell you the estimate? Rupees fifty thousand only! Are you surprised? Well, I would not be surprised, if you are. That ministerial grass should cost half a lakh of rupees while ten per cent cuts should be boosted to the skies is enough to make one sit up. But I am sure of one thing, men may sit up or men may lie down, our ten per cent cut drive will nearly go on from one huge expenditure to another for ever."

BOMBAY. **Hariram G. Jugat.**



It is an age of smiles because their romance is fresh without any wrinkles of worries. Nutan and Dev Anand bring new excitement to the screen in "Manzil", a love tale produced by Kalpana Pictures.

KEEP PRAYING

"Austerity Or Perversity?" is, truly speaking, the most constructive article coming from a journalist's pen so far in India in 1957. The various suggestions as put forward by you in the usual systematic and forceful manner provide the only solutions, in the present circumstances, to our numberless ills. They cry for their immediate implementation in the interest of the nation and unless and until this is done we can never hope to find the success of our second Five-Year Plan round the corner. But our Congress lords with empty heads and no imagination of their own have a reputation of religiously disregarding the well-meant advice of people not in their fold. So what else can we do, sir, except praying for the best and expect something magical to happen in India's favour?"

AJMER. **Prabhu Dayal.**

FIVE-YEAR HYSTERIA

"If only our rulers condescend to sit and think and then decide to take the remedial measures suggested by you in the "brief synopsis" given in your editorial captioned "Austerity Or Perversity"? in the July issue then I would be more than satisfied.

"Economy in public administration must be resorted to but not to the extent that it affects the already lacking efficiency of the government departments. The so-called "voluntary" cuts in our ministers' salaries will, as you have observed, not only harm the administrative efficiency but encourage still further the corrupt practices which will have a big say in the failure of our Five-Year Plans. The Government must act in a realistic manner and cut down the size of the second Five-Year Plan, financing of which should be within the reach of the national exchequer. It is high time that we cured ourselves of this sort of hysterical 'prestige-fever'."

BOMBAY. **N. Rajagopal.**

EXPECTING MIRACLES

"Enough has been brought to our notice in 'Filmindia's' editorial "Austerity Or Perversity?" of July 1957 to open the eyes of Indian citizens as well as those of our imperious ministers. It is rather regrettable that the pillars of success of a democratic country, our ministers, think in a narrow groove and thus stop further progress of the country. As a result ministers and their sycophants are happy while the masses, who form the main framework of democracy are unhappy.

"The synopsis suggested by Mr. Baburao Patel for the change in administration and the suggestion to remove corruption is appreciable if only our honourable Goverment would think on this dispassionately. Should we expect something favourable in this regard before long?"

DELHI. **S. C. Gupta.**

Some women have a natural thyroid look and their eyes hit the world first. But late nights can also give a woman tired and bulging eyes which neither a fan nor a smile can hide. Roopmala plays an attractive little role in "Laxmi", a romantic tale of a wife and the other woman.

DAILY TASK IMPOSSIBLE

"Your most revealing editorial, "Austerity Or Perversity?" is an open challenge to the Government and the capitalist-cum-Congress controlled press, who seem to have entered into an unholy alliance to fool the ignorant and politically immature people of India by playing the tune of their 'chacha' to the hilt. While Nehru's foreign adventures, his conquest of the millions of tender hearts, his messages and appeals for sacrifice are prominently displayed, nobody barring "Filmindia" cared an iota to place the reality before us.

"We are unfortunately a nation wedded to the cult of non-violence, and as such we start with a severe handicap. For, we cannot resort to any violent methods whether we are squeezed to death or forced to commit suicide. Your brief synopsis positively catalogues certain constructive ways and means which can only be overlooked by persons who have lost their sense of reasoning. And I don't think our ministers would like to take cover behind such excuses. It is our misfortune that "Filmindia" is not a daily paper. Why not do the needful, Babs?"

BOMBAY. **P. C. Bansal.**

AN OLD STORY

"Recently, I had an occasion to see "Coffee House" starring Shammi Kapoor and Geeta Bali. It seems that as the latter part of the picture was being shot, Geeta Bali was fast on her way to motherhood. This clearly shows on the screen and appears grotesque as in the picture she is still portrayed as unmarried and, from what one can gather, unmolested. If film actresses don't believe in taking maternity leave, they should stop work at least for the sake of the poor cinemagoers whose credulity stands to be strained otherwise!"

NEW DELHI. **Indra Mohan Sahai.**

NEW TRICK

"It is a sheer mistake to believe that an Indian brain is not suited for devising new ways and means for doing a thing. A lot can be written on the subject but I will refer only to one concrete instance.

"Cinegoers know that in big cities a cinema seat is automatically reserved after a person buys a ticket from the booking window. The common procedure is to insert the number of the seat and the row on the ticket. This affords a lot of convenience to the visitors and they are saved from the unnecessary worry of looking out for their seats.

"At Jullundur, however, the cinema hawkers have given a lead by bringing forth a new method of 'reserving' seats. According to this system a person who is the last to get a ticket may get the first seat in the back row. What he has to do is simply to contact a hawker before the booking starts and pay him an anna or two. The latter in return, puts one of his belongings on the seat of his choice and it is immediately reserved.

"Thus a great injustice is done to those who buy the first tickets in the queue but have ultimately to sit in the front rows. Mr. Patel, will you please publish this letter to draw the attention of the cinema authorities who can well check this corrupt and illegal practice if they are eager and earnest to do so?"

JULLUNDUR. **S. Parkash.**

LACKING DISCIPLINE

"It is a sweeping generalisation to say that the theatres showing foreign films are doing their "business" with acumen, system and method. My experience is different and I have a different story to tell.

"A few days ago I went to see "Zarak" at Aurora. I was too early for the 4 P.M. show. I stood in the "Q" of 75 n.p. I could have easily got the ticket as a few were standing in the "Q". But to my utter amazement and annoyance, I saw many late Latifs making their way forcibly through the gate. I returned disappointed. Next day again brought only the previous day's experience.

"I brought this fact to the notice of the watchman who explained that he was asked by the manager to stand inside the theatre. He also "advised" me to approach the manager. But what is the necessity of keeping a watchman inside the theatre when his sole duty is to manage the queue outside?

"I made a third attempt and was fortunate this time to secure a ticket. I went inside and talked to the man—who was checking tickets at the entrance—about the ill-observed "Q" system. He replied that his job was to manage people inside the theatre and hence he had nothing to do with the outside queues. Though he talked to me nicely, I was surprised to smell liquor from his mouth whilst talking.

"Will the manager be kind enough to look into the matter?"

BOMBAY. **Jaikishan Bhagat.**

CELLULOID BASRA

"I have seen a picture very recently here titled "Basre-ki-Hoor".

"I am staying approximately 80 miles away from Basra where I spend most of my week-ends. I was surprised to learn from the picture that tigers, lions and elephants existed in Basra. Have such animals ever existed in the Arabian Desert in the past? Or is the story adapted from the Arabian Book "A Thousand and One Nights" where such fiction is found?

"Another point I wish to know from you. I was always under the impression

Long-distance calls often bring solace to over-mature bachelors. Abhi Bhattacharya, our popular actor, gives a splendid account of himself in "Aparadhi Kaun", a social theme produced by Bimal Roy Productions.

that 'Shahazadi' meant a princess while the masculine term was "Shahazada". In the picture mentioned above the term 'Shahazadi' was used both for the prince and the princess. Please enlighten me on these points with correct information."

KUWAIT. **Jonnie P. Aviet.**

GREEDY EXHIBITORS

"In most of the big cities, the cinema houses have since long taken various steps to make cinema going cheap for their patrons. In U.P., student concessions, in the form of exemption from tax, are allowed for various classes. In Bombay, the rates are sufficiently low to allow one a seat in the rear of the hall by spending a rupee and odd annas. In Calcutta and Bangalore picture houses put the 3 o'clock show on reduced rates.

"Yet in New Delhi, this capital city of ours, we have nothing of the sort. The rates extend from Re. 1-4-0 upwards (excepting two rows of 10 anna class which, anyway, are bad for health due to their atrocious proximity to the screen and ought to be removed.) Neither do we have any student concessions. The 3-15 show like the ones succeeding it is at full rates. Delhi's own innovation, the 12 o'clock show is indeed at reduced rates. But that is immaterial as it cannot be patronized by anyone having a regular and fixed occupation—student or office-goer—without taking French leave. And the lack of such concessions as mentioned above doesn't mean that the exhibitors here are actually starving, eh! What do you say?"

NEW DELHI. **Indra Mohan Sahai.**

ROCK 'N ROLL CRAZE

"One thing that has got to be stopped and that too immediately, sir, is the craze for introducing rock 'n roll dance and music in our films. It all started with the film "Baarish" wherein the song "Mr. John O. Babakhan" was tuned to rock 'n roll music. This was, of course, a mild type. The more vigorous type came in "Mr. X" in which Johnny Walker along with half-a-dozen, half-starved Anglo-Indian couples indulges in brazen-faced hip-swaying.

"Now I am sure many more producers will copy this music which may be all right for the Americans but not for Indians.

"Somehow this kind of exhibition of sex seems unsuitable for our tradition and temperament. Will our censor chief, Mr. M. D. Bhatt, wake up and see that such gross exhibition of sex is banned from Indian films?"

MADRAS. **S. A. Hasnath.**

CHETAN'S BUDDHIST PILL

"Please allow me to write something about "Anjali". It was a much-advertised and eagerly awaited film. But it has failed to come up to my expectations.

"It follows the beaten track of the love-triangle. The only difference is that it is said to be based on historical facts.

"The pivotal role is played with due dignity and restraint by Chetan Anand. But does he look young and handsome like Anand—the youngest disciple of Buddha —who set aflame the hearts of two youthful girls?

"And was Anand lacking in spiritual power that he fell a victim to black magic as is shown in the film? Does it not prove the superiority of superstition over Buddhism?

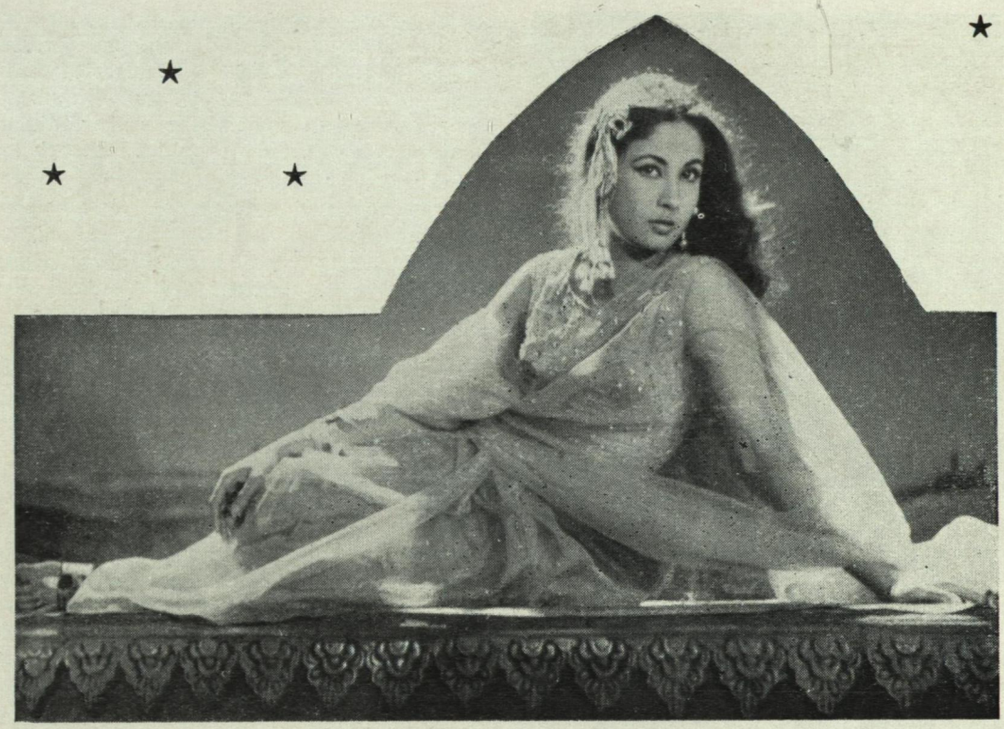
"Nimmi has played her role with rare understanding, vivacity and artistry which is in itself a gem of histrionics. But does she not look too glamorous and sophisticated for the role? And why has she been asked to follow the "Monroe gait"?

"Some of the scenes in the film, are however, ridiculous, annoying and out of place in a lofty subject like this. It seems Chetan Anand has not yet recovered from the coma of "Funtoosh".

"The brightest side of the film is its music which is hauntingly lilting in song compositions.

"To the discernible public it is a mediocre film. We expected something better and intelligent from Chetan with his educational qualifications."

BOMBAY. **Jaikishan Bhagat.**



We cannot guarantee that a woman looked like this a thousand years ago but we must bless our days that we see some one so charming as Meena Kumari in "Hazaron Saal Pehle", a romantic social theme.

LET US PRAY

"In your "My Pal Parker" written in the July issue of "Filmindia", you have really poured out your heart about your dear friend and a life associate of yours in the trade, giving a Mark Twain touch in your narration of days past when your every day existence was a tough affair. Your reference to Parker's harassment by the Income Tax adds to the poignancy of his death.

"Your useful work is gaining momentum every month and a few more nails are fixed to the coffin of the Congress power and authority. May your shadow never grow less!"

CALCUTTA. **C. V. Rajan.**

PROHIBITION MONSTERS

"The recent press reports about the activities of goondas in North Bombay should open the eyes of our rulers to the evil that has followed in the wake of prohibition.

"North Bombay—Dadar, Matunga and Sion—is infested with these monsters who are the products of our Congressmen's illicit love with prohibition. Unfortunately, this area is inhabited by the mild Madrasis, who can do nothing but talk and type complaints—fine specimens of India's dynamic "Nehruality".

"These goondas always move about in well-tailored and starched clothes and apparently lead a jolly life which tempts the young students of this area to fall a prey to these monsters and reveal family secrets, where the jewellery is kept, etc.,

And they say that the Indian film industry has no money! But sometimes even notes used as covers have to be borrowed. Lalita Pawar and Jeevan have a beneficial financial transaction in "Nau Do Gyarah". By the way, is Jeevan playing an income-tax officer? Then the wad of notes makes sense.

which then becomes the cause for blackmail and robbery by the goondas. Besides, these youngsters because of their association with these monsters dare to make the lives of young girls going in the streets a veritable hell. If anybody dares to defy them they bring their "dadas" and beat up the unarmed man with hockey-sticks, cricket-bats, steel-rods and knuckle dusters.

"The police of this area seem to be their paid godfathers, who just make routine inquiries and drop the matter conveniently in the waste-paper basket.

"These people deal in liquor openly. What is the Prohibition Police doing? What is the much-talked of anti-goonda squad doing?"

BOMBAY. **Mrs. C. Radha.**

GOONDAISM IN FASHION

"Goondaism is gaining more and more ground with every day that passes by in this first city of India. Rape and robbery, murders and molestations have become the order of the day. Burglars, bootleggers and criminals rule the roost, thanks to the mighty police force which Morarjibhai left behind. By now Bombayites have become so very accustomed to these daylight gangsterisms that they treat these devilish activities as a matter of course.

"Sometimes it is a mad clerk mercilessly stabbing a young girl in the offices of the Western Railways with his cowardly colleagues as onlookers and at others it is a group of gangsters making their way with the Bank cash boxes and piling up quite a few corpses in the busiest thoroughfare of the city, Hornby Road. And often it is a love-lorn youth shooting his unresponsive beloved on the sea-side. All these acts are, of course, performed in broad daylight.

"The recent one that Free Press Journal reported on 17th July 1957 on its front page states, "About 8.30 last night Kumari Pushpa, who was returning home was suddenly accosted by an assailant near King's Circle Station (also a very busy locality). The girl who was taken aback shouted for help but in vain. The assailant pulled out a knife and struck her in the chest....the assailant escaped and has not been traced yet." It is the same old story of a hoodlum's romance with the revolver and the knife.

"Unless the sensible suggestions of 'Judas' (Bombay Calling—July '57) are heeded and indigenous crime films banned, the sole inspiration of these crime-conscious crooks—Bombay will soon become a colony of criminals. Let the authorities act quickly."

BOMBAY. **V. G. Dayalani.**

IN BANKRUPT INDIA?

"Ours, they say, is a Welfare State. But the classic concept of a Welfare State is that such a State looks after the citizen right from the cradle to the cemetery. We don't know how true is that of India? However, without indulging in the claptrap of a socialistic pattern of society and imposing back-breaking taxes, Australia is reported to have the following achievement to its credit.

"Australians are urged to have their chests X-rayed every year at the cost of the Public Exchequer. Sometimes the X-ray units are installed in city stores to encourage shoppers to spare five minutes for a check-up. Protective injections are also given to such persons as have been exposed to the risk of tuberculosis as also to school-leavers. An Australian who unfortunately contracts TB receives all treatment, which may involve months or even years, in a sanatorium free of charge. Besides, a married man receives "a tuberculosis allowance" of £(Australian) 9.12.6 a week, with an additional 10 shillings for each child, while he is in a sanatorium or during convalescence. A single man receives as much as £(A) 6|2|6. Plainly therefore, a man who has to be admitted into a sanatorium these days is not burdened with the extra worry of how his family will manage in his absence.

"T.B. being a deadly scourge, any step in the direction of mitigating this unmixed evil must be widely welcomed". Can India follow in Australia's footsteps?"

ARRAH. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

TOO MUCH TO ASK

"Every self-respecting Indian is painfully conscious of the moral degeneration that has set in as a national malady since our hard-won independence. But the blatantly suggestive remarks of the official who had the temerity to ask the film star, "Apart from film work you must be earning in private practice because you are so attractive" ("Filmindia" June, 1957) takes the palm for indecency and immorality. We feel indignant not because the performances of many of our film stars behind the arc lights are above reproach; not because many of them are not guilty of concealing their ill-gotten gains from legal taxation; but for the simple reason that we have a reputation as a nation of being traditionally chivalrous and respectful to our womenfolk—whether they recline in the cloistered seclusion of our stately homes or walk the streets under the lurid lights.

"That the above incident needs outright condemnation is a point beyond doubt. What needs analysis are the psychological and sociological reasons which prompt our menfolk to indulge in such levity. Our boys whistle at our girls; our young men go further and all this may be attributed to the indiscretions of immaturity. But when our adults in responsible walks of life stoop to such indecency and immorality, the time for sermons on our ancient culture is over; it is time for us to sit up and think. An income tax officer should

carry himself with dignity and his demeanour should be above reproach.

Morality cannot, however, be inculcated by the "inflammation of the cuticle". It needs planned training in our homes, in our schools, colleges and universities, according to our traditional Indian culture. A nation trained on such lines alone can stand the glare of world opinion. What the nation, therefore, needs today is not only a blue print for national development, but plans for moral development too."

JAIPUR. **M. P. C. Gupta.**

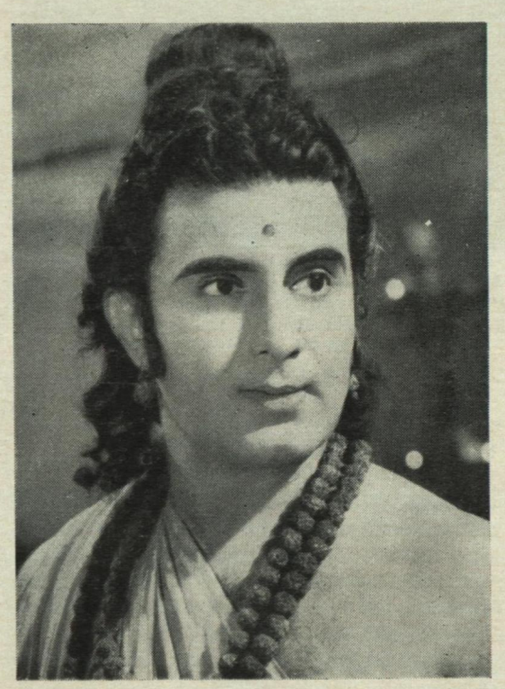
HIS CORPSE ADMITTED

"The seats in some of the medical colleges in West Bengal are being sold openly. The prices vary in different institutions, sometimes running to the tune of Rs. 5,000|- per seat. According to a recent press report, the Calcutta National Medical College, which receives an annual grant of Rs. 250,000|- from the Government has a more complex problem. In the matter of candidate selection, it has to satisfy a number of its patrons including some ministers. It is reported that there are over 30 candidates who are recommended by ministers. There are also applicants for whose admission personal requests have been made to the college authorities by influential persons in society and the Government. God only knows the fate of the poor students, the majority of whom cannot even afford the college tuition fee leave aside paying such an amount per seat. Students having wealthy parents but no competitive merits have usually benefited the most.

The first wrinkle on the brow of youth denotes the rude awakening from the first dream of hopes. Nanda, a baby till yesterday, brings new emotion to the screen in "Laxmi", a social theme.

"It will not be out of place to mention here that on the 16th of July 1957, Sreedhar Kulkarni, an intermediate science student of an Aurangabad college committed suicide. In a letter addressed to his father he had expressed the desire that his body instead of being cremated should be handed over to the medical college authorities. The reason for Sreedhar's suicide was that he was refused admission in the medical college and the refusal had shocked him. In his letter to his father, Kulkarni wrote that life had lost all meaning for him since his only ambition in life of becoming a doctor had remained unfulfilled.

"What has happened to Sreedhar Kulkarni of Aurangabad today might as well



That is the make-up that attracts American tourists to India. They want to see real live sadhus and, of course, cobras. "Naag Mani" produced and directed by Raman B. Desai, has both—sadhus and cobras—and it would be worth while sending a copy of the picture to America. And we can send this live sadhu, Manhar Desai, to sell the picture.

happen to the students of West Bengal who are refused admission. After all not every student can pay the heavy price for the seat or get recommendation from the ministers.

"It is high time that such sort of corruption in educational departments was completely uprooted to give some meaning to our ten-year-old democracy."

CALCUTTA. **J. L. Kholbheteria.**

LEFT TO HEAVEN

"We have been a free people for ten years now but nowhere in the modern history of the world will you find the children, the future pillars of the nation, and their education so criminally and consist-

Age brings thought to a woman and the weight of that thought takes away defiance from her eyes. Kamini Kaushal, our seasoned artiste, gives a polished performance in "Raja Beta", a tale of mother love produced by Vallabh Productions.

ently neglected as in our country. Let us take for example, New Delhi, the seat of the Government, forgetting for a while lakhs of villages and thousands of towns in India.

"Here in the capital you will find on the one hand the huge imposing structure of the State-owned Ashoka Hotel with its luxuriously furnished empty rooms and nothing-to-do employees costing the exchequer about three lakhs of rupees a month while on the other hand we have the pitiful spectacle of little children trying to learn the three R's under old tents exposing themselves to the rigours of nature in summer, rains and winter. It is a heart-rending sight to see the dear little ones of Mother India perspire, drenching to the skin and shivering in their so-called schools.

"And this happens under the very beard of the man who is in charge of our country's education. A visit to the Parliament Street and you will know how many huge palatial buildings are rising, both public and private, on both sides of the road. The materials used in them can easily build over a hundred well-laid out schools for India's unlettered millions. But who cares so long as the offsprings of the ministers and other high-ups in the Government are educated in English public schools and by tutors at home? Democracy is only an excuse for practising utter indifference to the immediate needs of the hour by our rulers of the swadeshi variety. What do you say, sir?"

NEW DELHI. **Dev. R. Bhatnagar.**

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